NEW YORK POST

LATE CITY FINAL

SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2026 / Sun & clouds, 81° / Weather: P. 24 ★ ★ SUNDAY nypost.com $2.00

STAGE FRIGHT

5th-graders at woke school mime getting shot by cops

Fifth-graders at a hyper-woke Upper West Side school pantomimed getting shot by police officers during a twisted multicultural day performance on June 11. Students with lefty signs blaring "ICE Out" and "Respect LGBTQ+" rushed the stage at the end. Said one cop: "Parents should be demanding answers as to who approved this. F--king insane!"

PAGE 5

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

STAND UP. FIGHT BACK.

VOTE
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FOR CONGRESS

Early voting is happening now.
Vote by June 23.

SEND A FIGHTER
TO WASHINGTON

“It is more important now than ever before in the history of this country to have leaders like Alex in Washington.”

— **Mario Cilento,** President, New York State AFL-CIO

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David Sims; Dua Lipa/Instagram

‘I Dua, I Dua!’ Lipa & Turner’s double knot

Dua Lipa and Callum Turner shared official images from their second lavish wedding ceremony in Sicily earlier this month.

The singer, 30, shared a carousel to Instagram on Saturday, with the caption “Mr. & Mrs.”

Lipa wore a Chanel haute couture gown, designed by Matthieu Blazy, with feather and crystal detailing, per Vogue.

Turner, 36, meanwhile, donned a custom Louis Vuitton suit.

The up-close, intimate shots showed the pair caressing one another, posing at their wedding venue and celebrating with champagne. ***Alexandra Bellusci***

HAVING A ‘GRAN’ OLD TIME

Party animal at 96

By JEANNE ERICKSON

She’s 96 years old, has millions of fans, and absolutely refuses to let anyone kill her buzz.

Internet superstar Lillian Droniak was warned she could get the boot from her Connecticut retirement home if she doesn’t stop throwing shindigs for her squad of silver-haired sidekicks — but the feisty great-grandma says she’s not about to trade cocktail hour for cocoa and lights out.

BIRTHDAY BITCH

“I could do what I want,” she said in a hilarious Instagram video. “They can’t stop me.”

Known to millions online as Grandma Droniak, the red-haired rabble-rouser has 4 million Instagram followers and a jaw-dropping 12.6 million TikTok fans.

The Shelton, Conn., merrymaker recently shared a video that had fans howling with laughter after she received a stern warning letter from management.

Wearing a T-shirt that read “Eyes Are Up Here” in hot-pink lettering, Lillian dramatically put on her glasses and announced the shocking news.

“Getting kicked out of my nursing home,” she read aloud from the typed letter. “Parties are not allowed . . . and you cannot serve alcohol to other residents. This letter serves as a final warning.”

If the retirement home expected an apology, they picked the wrong grandma. After briefly considering the warning, Lillian (inset) ripped the letter in half and dropped it.

Then, as causally as if she were discussing the weather, she pulled out a hair pick and fluffed her bangs.

“I can do whatever I want,” she declared. “I pay $12,000 dollars a month to live here and I can party if I want to. We’re gonna drink and gossip. It’s not a party, but we do get rowdy.”

Then she ended by saying, “I can’t help it. I love to party! You can’t stop me!”

After she applied a touch of lipstick, there was a knock at the door.

“They’re here!” she squealed before speeding off in her wheelchair to greet her guests, cackling like a gangster — unapproved speakeasy open for business.

Whether she’s reviewing boyfriends, hunting for free meals, or allegedly running an underground gossip-and-cocktail ring from her retirement home, Grandma Droniak remains living proof that age is just a number.

And if management wants her to stop partying — they’re gonna need a bigger note.

Tay, Lively ‘Blake’up & make up

We are so getting back together.

Taylor Swift and Blake Lively are reportedly rekindling their friendship, and it all started with an “olive branch” Swift extended to Lively in the form of an invite to her upcoming wedding with Travis Kelce.

The former friends “have spoken on the phone,” an insider told the Daily Mail in a report published Saturday.

“Everyone around Taylor is aware that Blake could attend. She may not, but that won’t be because she isn’t welcome,” the source said. *BreAnna Bell*

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Main Office .... (212) 930-8000
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Circulation and Home Delivery
Customer Service .... (800) 552-7678

Mail subscription & back issues only: Phone 1-888-208-4157 or contact New York Post, P.O. Box 1407, Bellmawr, NJ, 08099. Foreign and domestic mail subscription rates available upon request to the Publishers Information Center, Inc.

Postmaster: Send address changes to The New York Post, 1211 Ave. of the Americas, NY, NY 10036-8790.

Vol. 225, No. 218. Copyright © 2026, NYP Holdings Inc. (USPS-383200) Published daily by NYP Holdings Inc., 1211 Ave. of the Americas, New York, NY 10036-8790.

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Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and additional offices. The Post uses recycled paper.

LOTTERY

NEW YORK

- Midday Nos. Sat.: **176**
- Midday Win-4 Sat.: **4088**
- Midday Take-5 Sat.: **2, 20, 21, 25, 26**
- Evening Nos. Sat.: **670**
- Evening Win-4 Sat.: **2627**
- Evening Take-5 Sat.: **15, 21, 24, 31, 32**
- Lotto Sat.: **10, 13, 19, 27, 36, 56**; Bonus: **42**
- Pick-10 Sat.: **3, 6, 7, 8, 16, 26, 30, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 43, 49, 53, 57, 64, 66, 67, 75**
- Millionaire for Life Sat.: **1, 10, 16, 30, 31**; MB: **4**
- Powerball Sat.: **16, 20, 44, 48, 50**; PB: **15**; PP: **x2**; DP: **11, 12, 25, 42, 57**; PB: **20**

NEW JERSEY

- Pick-3 Sat.: **878;** Fireball: **3**
- Pick-4 Sat.: **8459;** Fireball: **3**
- Cash-5 Xtra Sat.: **5, 15, 32, 35, 39**; Xtra: **2**

CONNECTICUT

- Play-3 Sat.: **074;** Wild: **3**
- Play-4 Sat.: **8380;** Wild: **1**
- Cash-5 Sat.: **1, 12, 13, 33, 34**

US goes to war with Mexico over Texas

The Post is counting down to America's 250th birthday with a look back at the nation's — and the paper's — history. Every day leading up to July 4, we're publishing notable covers and stories from our archives:

The United States officially declares war on Mexico May 15, 1846

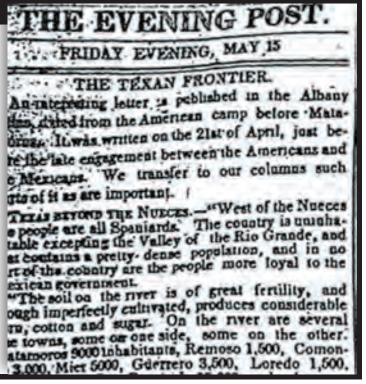
Two days after Congress approved President James K. Polk's request to declare war on Mexico, The Evening Post reported on the state of affairs beneath the headline "The Texas Frontier."

Happy 250th, USA!

The conflict stemmed from the US' annexation of Texas in 1845 and a dispute over lands between the Neuces and Rio Grande Rivers.

Following nearly two years of intense fighting, peace was reached on Feb. 2, 1848, with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

The US acquired 500,000 square miles of Mexican territory, encompassing California, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, most of Arizona and Colorado, and parts of several other Western states, while Mexico recognized the Rio Grande as Texas' southern border. In return, Mexico received $15 million. *Ben Cost*



THE EVENING POST.

FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 15

THE TEXAN FRONTIER.

An interesting letter is published in the Albany
dated from the American camp before Mata-
It was written on the 21st of April, just be-
re the late engagement between the Americans and
e Mexicans. We transfer to our columns such
rts of it as are important.
TEXAS BEYOND THE NUECES.—"West of the Nueces
e people are all Spaniards. The country is uninha-
table excepting the Valley of the Rio Grande, and
at contains a pretty dense population, and in no
rt of the country are the people more loyal to the
exican government.
"The soil on the river is of great fertility, and
ough imperfectly cultivated, produces considerable
rn, cotton and sugar. On the river are several
e towns, some on one side, some on the other.
atamoros 9000 inhabitants, Remoso 1,500, Comon-
3,000, Mier 5000, Guerrero 3,500, Loredo 1,500.

Kat turns hooker healthcare trick

By RICH CALDER

Gov. Hochul has quietly extended a pilot program providing free healthcare to sex workers, with taxpayers footing the nearly $2.5 million bill.

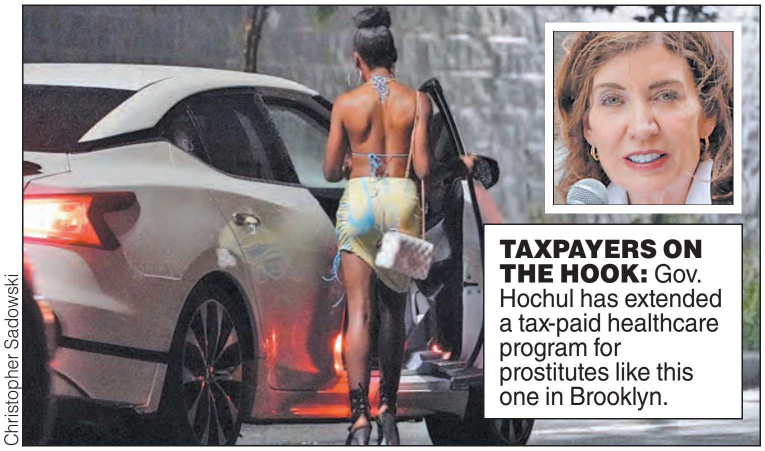
The state Health Department in 2023 awarded $1 million to two contractors as part of Hochul's plan to help the "world's oldest profession," but documents reviewed by The Post show the program extending through June 2028 for $1.5 million more.

Under the initiative, sex workers in the city and the Buffalo area will continue to receive primary, sexual, behavioral and dental care.

Critics bashed the program, which was launched without Legislature approval, as encouraging prostitution.

They also ripped the politics behind the move, accusing Hochul of extending the pilot to satisfy Mayor Mamdani and other far-left Democrats who want to decriminalize prostitution.

"The lengths by which New York Democrats will cater to the far left has no greater example than Gov. Hochul funding healthcare for hookers to the tune of millions while actual frontline healthcare workers . . . live on food stamps," said state Assemblyman Michael Novakhov (R-Brooklyn), referring to a repeated gripe by EMTs that they are so poorly paid that many seek government assistance.



Christopher Sadowski

TAXPAYERS ON THE HOOK: Gov. Hochul has extended a tax-paid healthcare program for prostitutes like this one in Brooklyn.

"Instead of playing pimp, Kathy 'Ho-Ho' Hochul and Mayor 'Madam' Mamdani should consider making sure the heroes who answer 911 calls and save lives every day can afford their rent and groceries," said Novakhov.

State Assemblyman Sam Pirozzolo (R-SI) agreed, claiming Hochul is "absolutely catering" to Mamdani and state Democratic Socialists of America pols peddling legislation to decriminalize sex work.

'Bad business'

"She is a target and trying to keep them at bay [during her reelection bid] with other people's money," Pirozzolo said.

"The governor likes to say, 'New York is open for business.' We are open for business . . . but it's the business of selling needles and marijuana . . . prostitution and other business that is bad business for New York."

Hookers seeking to deal with hazards of the trade by having abortions or taking pills for sexually transmitted diseases and birth control can get free assistance through health clinics for these services and don't need a healthcare plan, he added.

The department defended the extension, insisting that "all New Yorkers deserve access to quality, barrier-free healthcare."

He's Zo-K with 'US a disgrace' lefty

Mayor Mamdani on Saturday called the radical Democrat running for Congress who once called the US "a f--king disgrace" the "perfect candidate."

Mamdani used a media event at early-voting booths at the Metropolitan Museum of Art ahead of Tuesday's primaries to gush about Democratic Socialist of America insurgent Darializa Avila Chevalier.

Mamdani is backing Avila Chevalier, 32, over 13th district incumbent Democrat Adriano Espaillat.

"I think Darializa is the perfect candidate for the race," Mamdani said.

Avila Chevalier has faced a backlash over vile, since-deleted social media posts uncovered over the past few months, including ones calling the US "a f--king disgrace," trashing cops and accusing veterans of committing "war crimes."

But the mayor was mum on the contest to replace retiring 12th District incumbent Democrat Jerry Nadler.

"I'm gonna be keeping my vote in this race between myself, the ballot, and that incredible pen that the Board of Elections gives to every voter," he said after casting his ballot at the museum. *Georgett Roberts, Rich Calder and Nick Labbat*

‘Subway shove’ suspect jailed

A maniac charged with shoving a 64-year-old painter onto the subway tracks at a Queens station was sent to jail Saturday as prosecutors revealed the victim suffered a head wound that required four staples to close.

Terrell Jarrett sneaked under a turnstile at the Parsons Boulevard F-train station around 5:30 a.m. on May 31 and walked up behind victim Orlando Cabrera and pushed him, according to a criminal complaint.

“[Cabrera] was sitting on a bench at a subway platform . . . when a male wearing a dark colored sweatshirt and red pants pushed him from behind causing him to fall onto the subway tracks,” authorities said in the complaint.

Cabrera also suffered from multiple cuts to his face and arm.

Jarrett, 37, “snuck up behind me and took me by surprise” Cabrera told The Post, adding the incident left him “bathed” in his own blood.

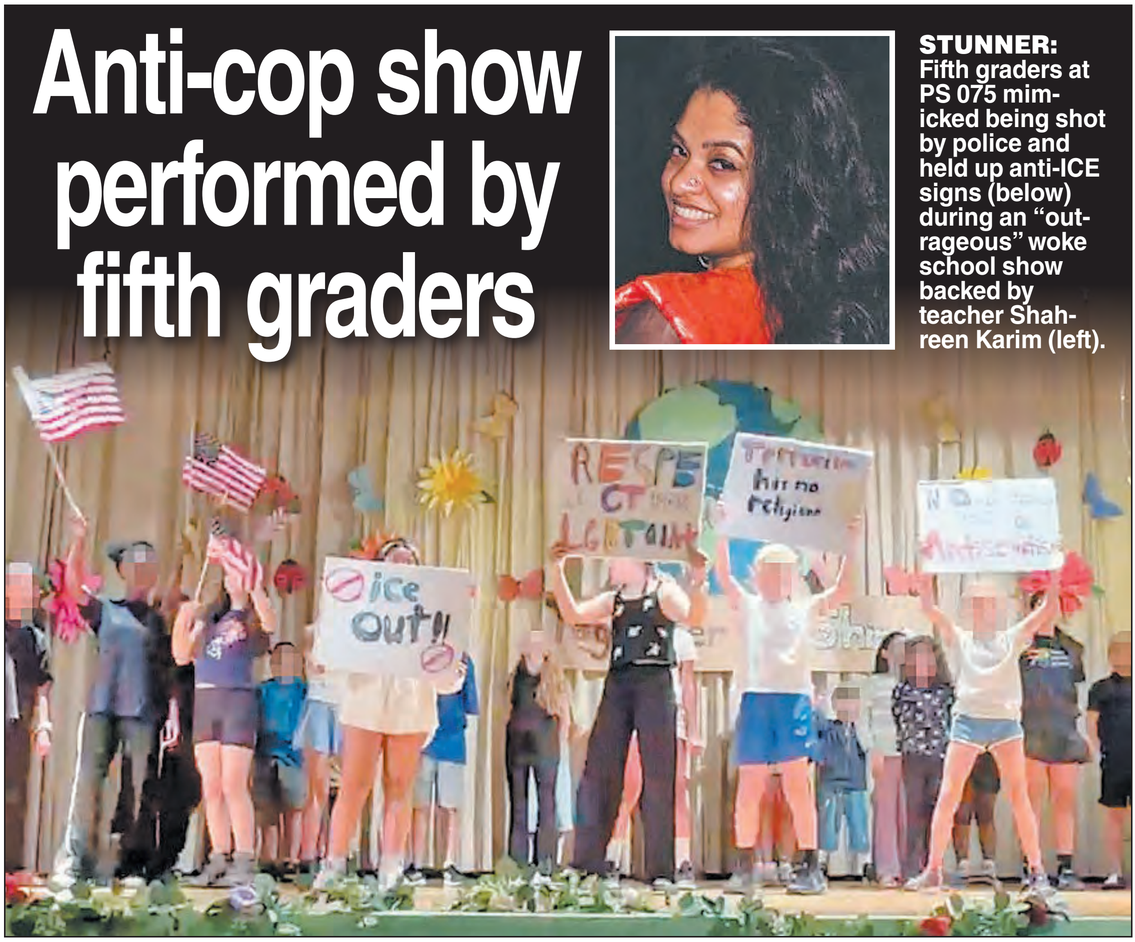
Video surveillance shows Jarrett walked out of the station a minute after he allegedly pushed Cabrera, the complaint said.

Jarrett was charged with attempted murder, assault and criminal possession of a controlled substance after cops arrested him and found a pipe with crack cocaine in his pocket, the documents alleged.

Judge Danielle Hartman ordered Jarrett, who has six prior arrests, held without bail and ordered him to undergo a psychiatric evaluation. *Tina Moore*

SCHOOL OF SHOCK

Anti-cop show performed by fifth graders



STUNNER: Fifth graders at PS 075 mimicked being shot by police and held up anti-ICE signs (below) during an “outrageous” woke school show backed by teacher Shahreen Karim (left).

Obtained by the NY Post

By DAVID SPECTOR

Fifth graders at a woke Upper West Side elementary school pantomimed getting shot by police during a pupil performance, shocking some parents and educators, and outraging cops.

The students at PS 075 on West 95th Street also hoisted radical left-wing signs during the caught-on-camera June 11 Multicultural Day event.

To mark the day, students from each grade staged a performance in the auditorium dedicated to a different cultural group. After fourth-graders recited Native American poetry, the fifth-graders took the stage.

The 10- and 11-year-olds danced to “Glory” by John Legend and rapper Common, with lyrics about Ferguson, Ohio, where white police officer Darren Wilson fatally shot black teen Michael Brown after he allegedly tried to wrest the cop’s weapon from him. The incident sparked nationwide Black Lives Matter protests.

‘Outrageous’

“That’s why we walk through Ferguson with our hands up/ When it go down we woman and man up/They say, ‘Stay down,’ and we stand up/Shots, we on the ground, the camera panned up,” blared the speakers.

In unison, the students collapsed to the stage staring straight up at the ceiling as if they too had been shot, a video obtained by The Post showed.

Later, when the song reached its chorus, the students went down on one knee, apparently mimicking former San Francisco 49ers Quarterback Colin Kaepernick, who made the gesture infamous when he protested during the national anthem before NFL games in 2016.

At the end of the performance, students rushed the stage carrying signs proclaiming “ICE Out,” “Respect LGBTQIA+,” and “Terrorism has no religion.” One placard said “No place for antisemitism.”

“This is beyond inappropriate; it’s outrageous. Having fifth graders pretend to be shot by police is not education; it’s political indoctrination and exploitation of children,” an NYPD officer told The Post. “Parents should be demanding answers as to who approved this. F--king insane!”

Some educators at the school are brainwashing their students in their woke ideologies, a school insider said.

“There are specific teachers at PS 075 who are persistently working to inculcate our students,” the insider said.

Teacher Shahreen Karim was behind the performance, according to the school insider. She arrived at the school in 2012 and heads the multicultural committee.

Far-left policies

Karim makes $98,226 a year, according to public records.

Principal George Georgilakis, who made $195,401 in 2025, is all-in on the hyper-woke policies, the source said.

“We didn’t have any of this stuff before he got here,” the source said.

PS 075 also hosts a “Rainbow Room” for LGBTQ+ content — which can be accessed without parental consent for kids in K through fifth grade; has an all-gender bathroom where boys routinely harass girls; and held a book reading about transgenderism for 7-year-olds, parents and critics said.

Parents were not given advance notice of a May 5 event, or any chance to opt out, when transgender author Kyle Lukoff read “When Aiden Became a Brother” to second graders at the school, according to the source.

A DOE spokesperson said the agency is working with the school to give families advance notice before events.

Hero McDonald ‘Saint of the City’ doc

Nearly a decade after his death, paralyzed NYPD hero Steven McDonald — who forgave the teenage gunman who put him in a wheelchair — is the subject of a new documentary that traces his extraordinary journey from Central Park shooting victim to international symbol of forgiveness and peace.

“Saint of the City” traces McDonald’s rehabilitation in Denver, his pilgrimage to Lourdes, France — where he initially prayed for a cure — and his trip to Northern Ireland, where he consoled victims of the 1998 Omagh car bombing that killed 29 people, and later participated in peace talks.

The 96-minute film features interviews with the brother of the 15-year-old who shot McDonald and the late officer’s widow and son, who is now an NYPD captain.

McDonald (left) was undercover and questioning Shavod Jones on July 12, 1986, in connection with a rash of bicycle thefts in the park when the teen pulled out a gun and shot him three times, hitting his spine and paralyzing him from the neck down, leaving him dependent on a ventilator.

The following year, McDonald forgave the teenager in a letter read by his wife.

Jones went to prison for nearly nine years for attempted murder before he was released in 1995. He died three days later in a crash while riding on the back of a friend’s motorcycle in East Harlem.

McDonald died on Jan. 10, 2017, at the age of 59 after a heart attack. *Tina Moore*

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

'Steel' his son's #1 hero

Mobile WTC beam honors 9/11 hero pa

By ANGELA BARBUTI

The son of a legendary city firefighter is marking Father's Day by hauling more than 16,000 pounds of World Trade Center steel across America, a rolling monument to honor his heroic father, who ran into the hell of 9/11 and never came back.

Stephen Siller Jr. is paying homage to his father, Stephen, who ran two miles through the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel, lugging 80 pounds of gear, to the South Tower. Siller was never found in the 1.6 million tons of steel and concrete rubble.

Tunnel to Towers Foundation

'INGRAINED IN STEEL': Stephen Siller Jr. (above and right as a baby) is honoring his fallen 9/11 hero dad through the Steel Across America tour.

His son, who was just 9 months old when his dad was killed on Sept. 11, 2001, is now driving across the country with a 16,900-pound, 21-foot-plus steel beam recovered from the South Tower in tow.

"My father's body was never recovered, so who he is ingrained in that steel," said Siller Jr., 25.

Inspire next generation

Siller Jr. is part of the Steel Across America tour, which began in May and is traveling a total of 10,500 miles, stopping at national monuments, museums, memorials and MLB baseball stadiums in more than 35 cities in 21 states, with the WTC beam on a flatbed truck.

"We're sharing those stories of heroes, men like my father. And those stories are going to inspire the next generation yet again," Siller Jr. told The Post.

The tour will culminate at Ground Zero on Sept. 11 to mark the 25th anniversary of the terrorist attacks, a day when Siller Jr. and his family will retrace the heroic last steps of his father, who served with Squad 1 in Park Slope, Brooklyn.

The 35-year-old Staten Island father of five was off duty that day and was driving to play golf with his brothers when he heard the call come over his radio.

"So he turned his car around, went into his firehouse. When he got there, he realized his unit had already responded. So he grabbed his gear, threw it in his truck, and started to drive to the World Trade Center. But every entry way into Manhattan had been shut down. You could not get in unless you were an emergency vehicle," his son explained.

"So he parked his car outside the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel" and ran to the burning towers.

Siller Jr., who lives on Staten Island, works full-time for the Tunnel to Towers Foundation, the nonprofit his uncle Frank Siller created in his dad's honor. The foundation has doled out millions to families of Sept. 11 first responders, military veterans and other heroes.

It has built dozens of homes for disabled vets, and paid off mortgages of widows of first responders killed in the line of duty.

Tunnel to Towers is hosting the Steel Across America tour, whose stops have so far included the Flight 93 National Memorial in Shanksville, Pa., and the Emma E. Booker Elementary School in Sarasota, Fla., where President George W. Bush was reading to students when he received the news of the attacks.

"We had Andy Card there, who was the man who told Bush; he was his chief of staff. To be there with him and to see his reaction to that day. It was overwhelming," Siller Jr. said.

SAME FLIGHT PATH: Carlos Sanchez and his NYPD helicopter pilot son Randy share a love of flying. Dad retired from the same job in 2002.

J.C. Rice for NY Post

Fam's legacy is sky-high

By TINA MOORE
Police Bureau Chief

A retired NYPD helicopter pilot who rescued people trapped on the roof of the World Trade Center after the 1993 terrorist bombing flew together with his pilot officer son for the first time in a Father's Day tribute.

Carlos Sanchez and his son Randy took flight together Tuesday from the department's Aviation Unit at Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn, and The Post was along for the ride.

"It's incredible that we ended up here," said Sanchez as he looked down on Gotham from the passenger seat on one of the NYPD's Bell helicopters, piloted by his son.

The fledgling NYPD pilot flew north from Brooklyn to Midtown, Manhattan, soaring at 800-feet and traveling about 100 mph, reaching the Empire State Building in about seven minutes.

"I still look up to my father to this day," said Randy. "But as a kid, it's super inspiring to see your father have a job that not many people do."

The elder Sanchez was a Marine from 1978 to 1984.

He joined the NYPD in 1984 and served in the NYPD's Aviation Unit for 14 years before retiring in 2002.

One of the highlights from the dad's NYPD career was flying the larger Bell 412 to rescue people from the top of the WTC after the 1993 bombing.

He was one of several pilots who flew to the top of the buildings, landed and picked up panicked people who were trapped by heavy smoke in stairwells and couldn't take normal fire exits. They were airlifted to Battery Park.

Lots more pops with mops

They're Generation Mr. Mom.

American dads have been stepping up as homemakers, with a 200% jump in the time spent doing household chores or tending to their kids, a new study has revealed.

Married fathers with kids spent roughly 30 hours per week doing housework in 2024, according to data from the Institute of Family Studies.

That's a stark jump from 1965 when men spent just 10 hours per week tending to their kids and home while moms spent more than 50 hours slaving away at home.

The institute compiled data tracking all the hours married men and women with kids under the age of five spent on household chores and childcare over several decades.

The men's data dates back to 1965, while the institute gathered data for women's housework starting in 1930.

Dads have increasingly been carrying more of the domestic burden — but moms are still spending more time running the household. *Sonya Gugliara*

Child sex vic, 66, wins suit vs. NYC

A Brooklyn jury has slapped New York City with a first-of-its-kind $18 million verdict under the state's landmark Child Victims Act, awarding the massive amount to a man who was sexually abused by his elementary school music teacher over 50 years ago.

The June 11 decision in Brooklyn Supreme Court found the city Department of Education "acted recklessly" regarding the sexual abuse of the victim, Susan Edelman reported on her Substack — marking the first time a jury has delivered a verdict against NYC under the Child Victims Act.

The victim, now 66, claimed he was repeatedly abused by substitute teacher John Clark at PS 15 in Red Hook between 1968 and 1971, often forced to sit on the then 28-year-old educator's lap while the perv had an erection, he said in court papers.

At screenings

The abuse often unfolded while students watched a movie in the auditorium, the victim, identified only as AP, alleged.

School officials were aware of Clark's abuse after a mother complained to then-PS 15 Principal Edwin Gardner.

Gardner transferred the boy from Clark's class and placed Clark under supervision but did not report the incident to the district superintendent, Anthony Ferrerio, the New York Times reported at the time. Gardner faced no disciplinary action for his handling of the complaint.

Clark — who died in 2017 and had multiple victims — was fired and arrested on an assault charge only after another mother went to the police. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to five years probation.

The 2019 Child Victims Act created a legal window that allowed victims of sex abuse to sue until they were 55 years old. *Trista Panagakos*

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Mam looks to replace chancellor

SCHOOL'S OUT FOR SAMUELS

READING THE ROOM: Mayor Mamdani seems to be eyeing a successor for Schools Chancellor Kamar Samuels (far right) in the wake of a high-profile financial scandal uncovered by The Post two weeks ago.

By DAVID SPECTOR

The Mamdani administration is eyeing potential replacements for scandal-plagued New York City Schools Chancellor Kamar Samuels, multiple sources told The Post.

City Hall officials began vetting internal candidates, a high-ranking DOE source revealed, after The Post's bombshell report two weeks ago on Samuels signing a $180,000 no-bid contract with an unapproved vendor and evading Department of Education procurement rules.

"The DOE was very busy this weekend; they're under a lot of stress to come up with a solution for this," the source said.

"The Knicks glow is leaving so now they actually have to deal with this s--t," another source, a City Hall insider, stated.

Former DOE Chancellor Meisha Ross Porter, who had a brief one-year stint as chancellor in 2021-2022, is believed to be back in the mix for the role.

Porter (inset), 51, has been angling for her old job for months and upped her efforts after The Post expose, the City Hall insider said.

"Porter's in Tweed all the time as a lobbyist, she's always talking s--t about Samuels, and he's completely oblivious," the insider claimed.

Her own baggage

The former chancellor once threw herself a lavish $45,000 bash to celebrate her ascension to Bronx superintendent in 2019. She recently posted on LinkedIn about attending a state college-savings account event with Samuels and NYC Council Speaker Julie Menin.

She was nearly picked for the chancellor role back in January, but the Mamdani camp got spooked by baggage surrounding a financial scandal at a nonprofit she ran, multiple sources claimed.

In the summer of 2024, Porter was axed from The Bronx Community Foundation — a nonprofit dedicated to fighting inequity in The Bronx — where she was earning $300,000 a year after the group was hit with serious financial mismanagement and corruption allegations.

The nonprofit distributed less than 25% of the $12.6 million it raised from 2019 to 2023, and a slew of executives were fired once the numbers came to light in 2024, The New York Focus reported.

If Samuels is axed, DOE Deputy Chancellor Lindsay Oates, who runs the Division of Finance, Administration and Human Resources, is also on the successor short list, the City Hall insider said.

She previously served as NYC Schools chief financial officer during the de Blasio administration, where she developed a close relationship with First Deputy Mayor Dean Fuleihan, who is serving in the same role under Mamdani, the source claimed.

When a Post reporter spotted Samuels in the hallway of a Panel for Education Policy meeting Wednesday, the embattled chancellor rushed to the bathroom instead of answering questions about the shady contract he inked. He is now being probed by the Special Commissioner for Investigation.

Union to principals: Say nada to probers

The union representing city school principals is ordering its members to keep quiet if investigators ask about school procurement practices, in the wake of The Post's exposé on Chancellor Kamar Samuels' alleged involvement in no-bid contracts.

"Please be reminded that you should not answer any questions prompted by an investigator," said a June 17 email from the Council of School Supervisors and Administrators.

The missive, signed by Laurelton School Principal and CSA District 29 chair Estelle Moore, says the Special Commissioner of Investigation, the independent Department of Education watchdog, "is active again . . . requesting PO [purchase order] related documentation." The he email instructs principals to ask for the investigator's contact information and say that a CSA rep will contact them.

The email also instructs principals to contact CSA field rep Patrick Burns, according to sources.

CSA Communications Director Craig DiFolco claimed the email was not an official union communication, but admitted it represented official policy.

David Spector

Brit PM ‘exiting’

Starmer losing support

By DAVID SPECTOR

UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer is reportedly set to resign Monday, though sources close to him contend he’s focused on the job.

Starmer (inset) is said to be discussing his political future with wife Victoria before laying out a timetable for his departure from 10 Downing St. next week, according to The Observer.

The news comes after Starmer rival Andy Burnham won a seat in parliament in a special election in Greater Manchester.

A senior UK government figure told Reuters Starmer is focused on his job — and claimed the prime minister isn’t going anywhere.

Burnham, who has made two previous runs at heading the Labour Party, is said to have the support of more than half of Labour members of Parliament to mount a leadership challenge to Starmer, the outlet reported.

The two are set to meet.

“Keir has realized the game is up and it’s got to be a graceful exit,” a senior Labour figure told Reuters.

“What he rightly wants to avoid is humiliation, but the worst humiliation for Keir personally would be if he stands in a leadership election and is heavily beaten.”

Burnham, who was mayor of Greater Manchester from 2017-2026, was once associated with the centrist pro-business faction of the Labour Party, but now presents himself as a left-wing populist and is known for Mamdani-like man-on-the-street social media videos.

He received 55% of the vote, walloping Labour’s main rival, the Reform Party headed by Brexiteer Nigel Farrage.

Starmer has faced dismal approval ratings as Britain deals with economic and immigration issues.

He has frequently clashed with President Trump — particularly after refusing to come to the aid of the United States in the Iran war.

“I’m not happy with the UK either ... this is not Winston Churchill that we’re dealing with,” Trump said of Starmer in March after tensions between them came to a boil.

Trump was frustrated by Starmer’s refusal to allow US planes to launch from the joint US-U.K. airbase in Diego Garcia and other UK bases in the region.

Swastika yearbook

An elite private school affiliated with the UN confiscated dozens of middle-school yearbooks filled with swastikas and other hate imagery — the latest antisemitism scandal to rock the $50,000-a-year Manhattan institution, The Post has learned

The United Nations International School in Turtle Bay sent a letter to parents Wednesday announcing it confiscated the yearbooks that also contained racist language and launched an investigation to determine “consequences” for those involved.

The school said it discovered “hate speech, including swastikas and antisemitic, xenophobic, racist, and homophobic remarks” in the “autograph” section of multiple yearbooks.

In the letter, the school encouraged students to come forward and identify those responsible, calling on “upstanders” to report their classmates.

Overall, 15 students have been identified as possibly involved. *Doree Lewak*

TEACHING

‘Terrorism lover’ back at CUNY on taxpayers’ dime

By GABRIELLE FAHMY

AGAINST ISRAEL: CUNY professor Corinna Mullin (far right), who’s taken part in chaotic anti-Israel protests and also allegedly supports terrorism, has two classes next semester.

ISRAEL BOMBS USA PAYS... HOW MANY KIDS DID YOU KILL TODAY??
LET GAZA LIVE

Her hate is on the taxpayer’s dime.

US- and Israel-hating Corinna Mullin — a political science professor so radical she was arrested for leading violent campus protests — is teaching two classes at the City University of New York in the fall, The Post has learned.

Mullin, who professed her love for Iran’s bloodthirsty Islamic Republic Guard Corps during an unhinged Democratic Socialists of America talk earlier this month, is teaching “Politics of the Middle East” at Brooklyn College next semester. She’ll lecture about the Arab states, Israel, Iran and Turkey, according to the course description in CUNY’s online class schedule.

She’s also slated to teach “Government and Politics in the Middle East and North Africa” at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, where she’ll talk about the Arab-Israeli conflict, political Islam, political Judaism, petropolitics and US foreign policy in the region.

Putting her back on the class schedule is “outrageous and unacceptable,” fumed CUNY law professor and business department chair Jeffrey Lax.

‘Fundamentally unfit’

“This is not academic freedom — it is taxpayer-funded indoctrination,” he said.

“Mullin’s extreme anti-Israel, anti-American views, framed through an anticolonial lens that often justifies terrorism and hostility toward the West, make her fundamentally unfit to shape young minds on the sensitive subject of Middle East politics,” he added.

CUNY students also warned bringing Mullin back in the classroom was wrong.

“Mullin’s statements are absurd and detached from reality,” slammed Aidan Herzlinger, a senior at Baruch College.

“The IRGC isn’t fighting for the ‘working class.’ Their goal since 1979 is the destruction of the United States and Israel because the regime’s ideology is anti-Western and anti-democracy. Having professors like Mullin on campus creates a system of indoctrination, not education.”

Mullin was fired by CUNY in the summer of 2025, after eight years on the job, for organizing and taking part in an April 2024 pro-Palestinian encampment at the City College of New York’s campus in Harlem where a student fired a flare that sparked a blaze in the science building and resulted in $3 million in damage, according to school officials.

But she fought the decision, helped by her union, and was reinstated in January, though her name didn’t appear on CUNY faculty pages or course schedules until recently.

She’s set to make at least $34,304 for the 2025-26 school year, according to a copy of the union’s salary grid for adjunct professors obtained by The Post.

In 2025, Mullin, 51, made $24,232 for the spring semester before she was fired that summer. And in 2024 — the year of her arrest — she pocketed $43,500, according to public records on See Through New York.

The anti-West prof also teaches at The New School, where she’ll be lecturing on “Decolonizing International Law” next fall. Her salary at the private college is undisclosed.

Defends IRGC

Earlier this month, Mullin clamored to bring down the US empire “by any means necessary” while speaking to more than two dozen NYC DSA comrades during an “Islamic Revolution Teach In.”

“A state like Iran needs to divert a significant portion of its surplus into military industrialization. . . . So, I’m sorry, I defend the IRGC,” she tear-

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Ex-prof’s anti-ICE ‘attack’

One of the anti-ICE agitators arrested outside Delaney Hall in New Jersey is a former adjunct lecturer at lefty Hunter College, The Post can reveal.

Aida Riddle, 36, of Brooklyn, who bills herself as a “black and queer emerging fiction writer” has been charged with assaulting a law-enforcement officer at the Newark facility on June 3, Newark police said.

Riddle (inset) taught at the taxpayer-funded Upper East Side institution while she was an MFA candidate from 2023 to 2024, and is now a freelance writer pursuing poetry, according to her LinkedIn profile.

She also contributed to little-known literary publications Expat Press and Orca Literary Journal, including an anti-Republican piece titled “I am Eating Myself Alive.” *Shane Galvin*

GOSPEL OF HATE

YouTube / Critical Theory Workshop

fully proclaimed. "I defend the incredible role the Iranian state has done to defend the working class.

"This is having a huge toll on the capacity of the US empire to impose its will. . . . We need to bring the empire down by any means necessary," she raged.

In March, at a CUNY Cuba conference in Midtown that devolved into an anti-US hatefest, she was among speakers deriding the "evil empire" as the "number one terrorist in the world" — urging people to "speed up" its demise "in every way possible."

"The threat is the US empire itself," she proclaimed.

Mullin also regularly spews anti-Israel hate. Last year, she was filmed chanting "up, up, up with freedom, down, down, down with Zionist scum," during a protest in Midtown, where she also yelled at Jewish counterprotesters to "just leave!" She's called Arab countries' normalizing ties with Israel "high treason."

'Very little knowledge'

She's worked with the Samidoun network, a sham charity that acts as a proxy for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine — a designated terrorist organization, according to the State Department.

Some of her students have denounced her extreme views on professor review websites.

"Radical who should not be within 100 feet of any classroom," wrote one student on Rate My Professors, where she got an overall grade of 3.8 on a scale of 1 to 5.

"Little knowledge in her rants," lambasted another. "Talks tons very little knowledge."

Mullin and CUNY did not return The Post's request for comment.

Far from 1st NYC college class clown

By SONYA GUGLIARA
and GABRIELLE FAHMY

Robert Miller

BOOK 'EM: CUNY professors involved in previous scandals include (clockwise from top) Shellyne Rodriguez, Ric Curtis, Anthony Marcus, Barry Spunt and Leonardo Dominguez.

When anti-Israel and anti-America professor Corinna Mullin returns to the classroom this fall, she will join a rogues gallery of controversial and even criminal professors employed over the years by taxpayer-funded City University of New York.

■ An unhinged Hunter College arts professor held a machete to a Post reporter's neck and made wild threats that she was going to "chop" him up when he knocked on the door of her Bronx apartment a day after she went viral for cursing out anti-abortion students on campus.

Shellyne Rodriguez was charged with menacing and harassment in the caught-on-video incident, and fired by CUNY.

■ Four professors at John Jay College of Criminal Justice — which, ironically, trains cops — allegedly ran a lawless den of depravity dubbed "the swamp," where they sold and used drugs and preyed on students, according to 2018 sexual harassment complaints.

Disgraceful profs

Accused in the scandal were adjunct professor Leonardo Dominguez, former anthropology department chair Anthony Marcus, sociology professor and former department chair Barry Spunt and anthropology professor and former chair of several departments, Ric Curtis.

Alleged victims Naomi Haber and Claudia Cojocaru filed complaints with John Jay's Title IX office in May 2018, detailing horrific allegations that included rape and drugs.

The professors denied the allegations and filed counterclaims for defamation and were placed on leave in September 2018.

Spunt and Marcus retired amid John Jay's investigation, and Dominguez never returned to the school.

The DA's office also launched a probe, but no criminal charges were brought. In 2024, John Jay allowed Curtis to come back and teach.

In 2021, John Jay paid Haber and Cojocaru $164,499.74 each.

All allegations against Curtis were dropped except retaliation.

■ Allyson Friedman, a biology professor at Hunter College, inadvertently interrupted a black student's concerns about the potential shutdown of her Upper West Side school to say "they're too dumb to know they're in a bad school" during a hot mic moment.

She apologized after sparking widespread fury and continues to be employed by CUNY.

■ The former head of the college's Center on Media, Crime and Justice Stephen Handelman was accused of turning an intern more than 50 years younger than him into a "sexual play toy."

The anonymous accuser filed a lawsuit against him in 2022.

The case was dismissed in August 2023.

Handelman was placed on leave and hasn't returned to the school since.

■ Erin Thompson, self-described as America's only professor of art crime in her John Jay bio, once told rioters how to topple statues "faster."

When protestors tore down the 10-foot Christopher Columbus statue at the Minnesota State Capitol in June 2020, Thompson tweeted out: "I'm a professor who studies the deliberate destruction of cultural heritage and I just have to say . . . use a chain instead of a rope and it'll go faster."

■ In 2017, economics John Jay prof Michael Isaacson was axed after posting online that it was a "privilege to teach future dead cops."

SO FAR, FLOW GOOD

Strait is open, but Iran denies it

By GEOFF EARLE

It's an open and shut case.

Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps claimed it was shutting down the Strait of Hormuz Saturday, even as US Central Command touted an increase in commercial traffic along the critical waterway.

About 55 merchant ships traveled safely through the corridor, moving large amounts of cargo and more than 17 million barrels of oil as safe passage remained intact on Saturday, according to CENTCOM.

"U.S. forces remain present and vigilant to ensure all aspects of the agreement with Iran are adhered to, obeyed, and in full force and effect," the military command center added, referencing the new Memorandum of Understanding between Washington and Tehran.

CENTCOM spokesman Capt. Tim Hawkins said, "The strait is open and the U.S. blockade against Iran has ceased."

That assessment came hours after the IRGC announced it was closing the strait, putting the delicate agreement — a 14-point MOU that centered on the immediate reopening of the passageway — in peril.

The Lebanon factor

Amid the conflicting reports, top US and Iranian officials were headed to Geneva, Switzerland, for a new round of technical talks expected to get underway on Sunday.

The IRGC warned the strait's closure was a result of renewed fighting in Lebanon despite a Friday US-brokered cease-fire between Israel and the terror group Hezbollah.

"It is hereby announced that the Strait of Hormuz will be closed to vessel traffic; It is noted that this first step is a response to the enemy's breach of promise, and if the aggression continues, further steps will be planned and taken to force the enemy to comply with its obligations," the IRGC's military headquarters said in a statement on state TV.

Hung up on Hezbollah

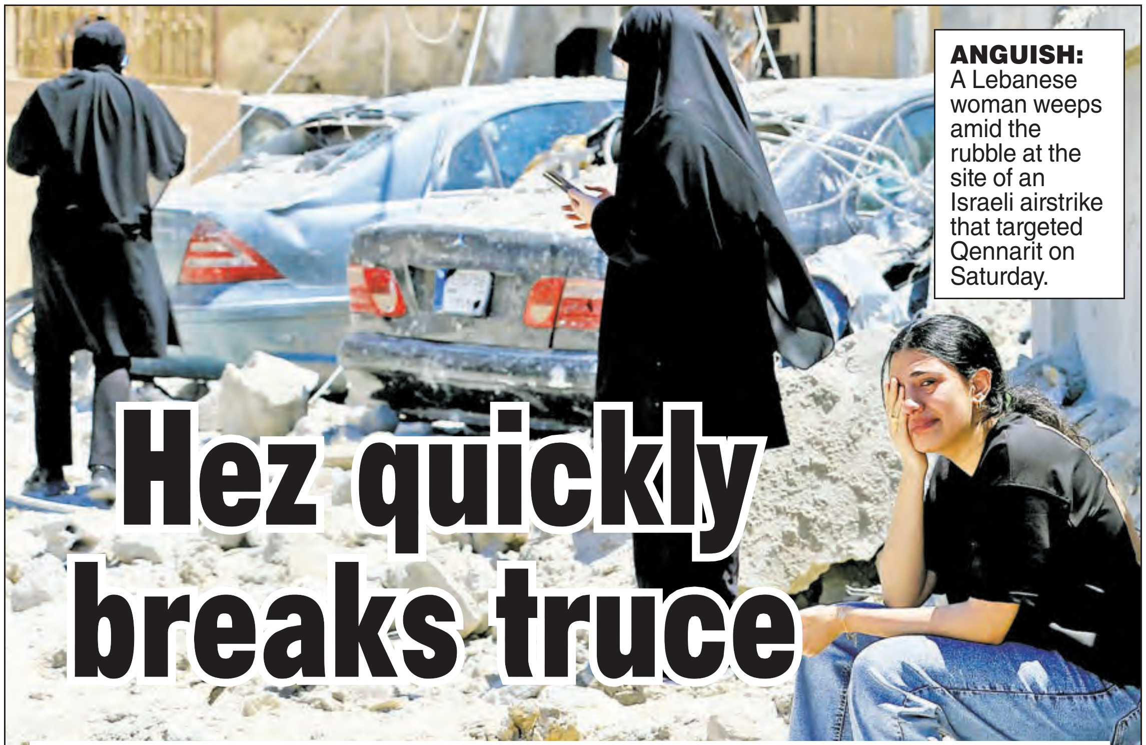
The fighting in Lebanon poses a threat to talks with Tehran, which are charged with resolving difficult issues around Iran's nuclear program, the Strait of Hormuz, frozen assets and reconstruction of Iran within a 60-day cease-fire window.

The agreement also calls for an end to hostilities, "including in Lebanon," although neither Israel nor Hezbollah are parties to the deal.

There were 25 commercial ships that made it through the strait Thursday, a record since April but well below a pre-war average of 120, according to AXS Marine data.

Traffic was also reportedly flowing early Friday, prior to the skirmishes breaking out in Lebanon. The IRGC threatened mariners late Friday not to enter the strait — and has vowed to start collecting tolls on vessels.

Trump posted that there would be "NO TOLLS" in the Strait of Hormuz.



ANGUISH: A Lebanese woman weeps amid the rubble at the site of an Israeli airstrike that targeted Qennarit on Saturday.

AFP/Getty

Hez quickly breaks truce

By GABRIELLE FAHMY

Hours after the two sides agreed to stop fighting, Hezbollah upended a fragile cease-fire by firing at Israeli soldiers Saturday, killing one.

The terror group launched "some 50 projectiles at Israeli troops" overnight into Saturday, prompting Israel Defense Forces' attacks on what an official called "Hezbollah targets."

An IDF soldier was killed and 13 others were wounded by the terror group in the Nabatieh-area village of Kfar Tebnit, the Israeli military said.

"Hezbollah broke the cease-fire, not Israel," Israeli Ambassador to the US Yechiel Leiter wrote on X Saturday. "Terrorists lie. Hezbollah is a terrorist organization. Hezbollah lies.

"Iran is using its proxy to extract concessions. That is the modus operandi of the murderous regime in Tehran."

The IDF carried out a wave of retaliatory strikes, killing at least 27 people, according to Lebanese officials, the Times of Israel reported.

Hezbollah denied it was the first to strike, claiming it had "adhered to the cease-fire" since the truce with Israel, which was brokered by the US and Qatar, went into effect Friday afternoon at 4 p.m. local time.

The terror group — based in southern Lebanon — said its fighters engaged with IDF troops attempting to advance on Lebanese territory.

"The continuation of brutal Israeli attacks aims to obstruct any solution that would allow for restoring stability in Lebanon," the Lebanese army said. *With Wires*

JD jets off for Swiss solution

Vice President JD Vance jetted to Switzerland on Saturday, aiming to discuss a peace deal with Iran as tensions continue to boil over the Strait of Hormuz.

His high-stakes mission follows a volatile week of negotiations and a 60-day ultimatum from President Trump, who has threatened to levy tolls on the critical waterway if a deal is not reached.

Vance, who noted he would remain in Switzerland "for a day or two," expressed optimism regarding progress on both Iran's nuclear program and a cease-fire between Israel and Hezbollah.

His press secretary, Luke Schroeder, confirmed the trip by posting on X a video of Vance boarding Air Force Two.

"We're going to hopefully make progress on the nuclear issue, make progress on the Lebanon cease-fire issue — those are the two big things that I think we're going to be focused on," he said on the tarmac.

An Iranian delegation arrived in Zurich Saturday, according to Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesperson, Emseil Baghaei.

Daniel Cody, Wires

WH rips pact critics

The Trump White House is lashing out at a couple of its most reliable allies as a bitter civil war erupts on the right over the administration's controversial Iran agreement.

Conservative commentator Batya Ungar-Sargon became the latest target Friday after she blasted the deal as an "utter humiliation" for the US and accused Vice President JD Vance of unfairly attacking Israel while defending Tehran.

Within hours, the official White House rapid-response account on X unloaded on the conservative pundit in a scathing post.

"The only humiliation here is Batya desperately begging for an additional brain cell because her failing TV show is even more irrelevant than the likes of Kaitlan Collins and Fake Tapper," the account, Rapid Response 47, wrote.

The White House-linked account also mocked conservative writer David Reaboi, who also was critical of Vance, dismissing Reaboi as a "complete nobody" whose "dim-witted ravings" nobody wanted to read. *Ariel Zilber*

Michael Goodwin

mgoodwin@nypost.com

Attacks on Israel make zero sense

BACKGRID; AFP/Getty

AN essential and great ally one day, road kill the next. Such is Israel's topsy-turvey relationship with the Trump White House.

The wild swings offer the clearest example yet of how widespread criticism of the generous deal with Iran is rattling the administration.

As dizzying events demonstrate, Trump himself is riding an emotional roller coaster.

Axios, citing administration insiders, reports that the president unloaded on Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in a Monday phone call.

"You're f--king crazy. You'd be in prison if it weren't for me. I'm saving your ass. Everybody hates you now. Everybody hates Israel because of this," the outlet quoted the president as saying.

From there, the job of beating up the Jewish state was left to Vice President JD Vance, who fired off a series of extraordinary insults.

He started in a White House press briefing notable for his brutal scolding of Israeli critics with language that tracked Trump's Netanyahu (top right inset) tirade.

"Donald J. Trump is the only head of state in the entire world who is sympathetic to the nation of Israel at this moment in time, and he happens to be the head of state of the world's superpower," the Veep declared.

He added, "the other thing that I would say is that over the last three months, two-thirds of the defensive weapons that have protected your homeland have been built by American hands and paid for by American tax dollars. The problem for Israel is not Donald J. Trump."

Aren't we allies?

Treating Israel as a nation of ingrates was bad, but worse charges were yet to come as Vance defended the beleaguered memorandum of understanding by insisting that Israel and Iran should be treated equally in key ways.

As when he said, "Israel doesn't give up the right of self-defense if Hezbollah fires rockets or drones at Israel. The Iranians don't give up the right of self-defense in their country."

And then, "it's very simple. You can't tell a country, whether Israel or Iran, they're not allowed to have any self-defense."

His logic is absurd on its face, because America went to war with three stated goals: destroying Iran's nuclear program, diminishing its missile stockpiles and ending its support for Hamas, Hezbollah and the Houthis.

And yet here is Vance acting as if Israel, our mighty and loyal ally, is a problem for the sin of defending itself against Hezbollah.

He neglects the key fact, which is that the terror group, sworn to the destruction of Israel, has taken over Lebanon and hides behind civilians in schools and apartment buildings as it fires rockets and missiles into northern Israel cities and towns.

Twisting the knife, Vance talks in ways that would make jihadists proud. "What gets the President frustrated sometimes is that we seem to be right on the cusp of a major breakthrough in the agreement," he said, "and then all of a sudden there's a major explosion that goes off in a civilian population center in Beirut, and a lot of people who have nothing to do with Hezbollah lose their lives. That's not acceptable."

Once again, he failed to note any difference between terrorists and the Israeli defense forces. He followed that with more even-handed mush.

"We do not want Hezbollah attacking Israel, but in order to ensure that happens, we have got to actually build the kind of regional framework that can cut off the money to Hezbollah, cut off Iranian support for Hezbollah, and also ensure that Lebanon's territorial sovereignty is respected by all parties."

He neglected to say that Hezbollah's very existence and presence is a violation of Lebanon's sovereignty.

His habit of false equivalence reveals that no disarming or dismantling of Hezbollah is likely.

Trump used similar words at the G7 summit in Europe, suggesting that Iran having missiles was not a reason to block the deal.

"If other countries have them, it's a little bit unfair for them not to have some," he insisted. "If Saudi Arabia and Qatar, and they all have some, I would say that in relative proportion, I think it's OK."

Somebody ought to check the White House water.

Meanwhile, Trump used a public appearance Friday to reverse his tone on Netanyahu.

"We fought very well with Israel, and we've had a great relationship with Israel," he said, calling Netanyahu a "warrior prime minister."

"They should give him credit," Trump said. "We really fought hard with Israel."

Vance, however, didn't get the memo that there was a new message. In a podcast, he dug himself into a deeper hole by raising the canard of dual loyalty of American supporters of Israel, accusing them of failing to separate US and Israeli interests, saying "they're not always the same."

Oh, please.

He compounded the insult by saying there is a wide tendency of "always conflating criticism of a particular government with Jew hatred, because if everything is Jew hatred, then nothing is Jew hatred," he told podcaster Allie Beth Stuckey.

Asked whether the growing criticism of Israel in the GOP was "a bigger problem than the 'Israel first crowd,' " Vance ducked.

"I see both, and I think both are bad," he insisted, saying he was trying to defend the deal "and I find often the arguments are, 'Israel doesn't think this is good, therefore it's bad.' "

If he hopes to be a serious presidential candidate in two years, he must stop sounding like he's channeling Tucker Carlson and Candace Owens.

From there, Vance was off to the races again, saying "Israel's opinions matter, but fundamentally they are separate."

After acknowledging that much of the Israeli political system and population are unhappy with the deal, he said, "But I also think they're picking up on some misinformation about the deal and running with it and sort of panicking about it."

Insulting

That was insulting enough, but he wasn't finished, saying, "I find this whole freakout in Israel a little bit odd because I think that it comes from a place of mistrust."

A timely example of that mistrust made a dramatic appearance on Friday's front page of an Israeli newspaper owned by Miriam Adelson, a longtime Trump megadonor who gave his last campaign a reported $100 million.

Israel Hayom bannered the letter, which accuses the president of "betraying" Israel.

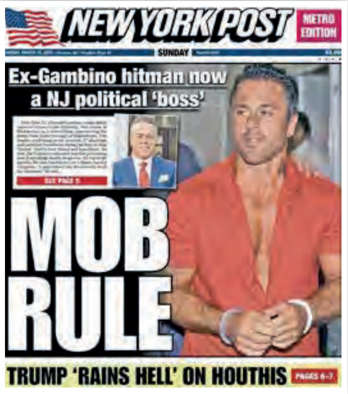
"You could have been the greatest president of all, but you failed," veteran writer Danny Zaken said in addressing Trump. He called the deal "a surrender agreement with a murderous and cruel terror regime" and warned that "you turned over the hourglass toward the next war, which your successors will have to deal with in the years to come."

Trump now has a 60-day window to finalize a stronger, better deal. He and Vance also must treat their allies like friends and realize that, despite the pounding it took, Iran remains an Islamist autocracy hell-bent on regional domination.

Ex-mob pol 'legit' NJ bust

Loansharking rap

By SHANE GALVIN



NEW YORK POST
METRO EDITION
SUNDAY
Ex-Gambino hitman now a NJ political 'boss'
MOB RULE
TRUMP 'RAINS HELL' ON HOUTHIS PAGES 6-7

Former Mafia hit-man-turned-rat-turned-suburban New Jersey politician John Alite has been arrested on loansharking charges.

The former Gambino family enforcer and ex-confidant of John Gotti Jr. was charged Friday with multiple counts of theft by extortion, corporate misconduct, usury, and terroristic threats, according to the state Attorney General Jennifer Davenport.

Ring camera footage of the moments before the arrest showed a brigade of cops in SWAT gear marching down a sleepy Englishtown street just after 5 a.m. on the way to Alite's home.

Stephen Locrotondo, 67, of Bridgewater, NJ, was also arrested and charged with usury and conspiracy as part of the alleged scheme.

'Excellent councilman'

"Our office is dedicated to ensuring that all businesses conduct themselves fairly and lawfully. The conduct alleged in this case was anything but, and we will work to hold those who cheat and steal accountable," Davenport said Saturday.

A lawyer for Alite (top right), 63, vowed his client would be cleared.

"John has lived a law-abiding life since leaving behind 'that' life almost two decades ago," attorney Douglas Santon told The Post.

"John is outspoken politically and fights tirelessly for what he believes in. This sometimes draws the attention of differing viewpoints which, in modern times, could lead to people in power taking positions that may not be genuine."

The former hit man, who confessed to six murders, purportedly turned over a new leaf and was last year appointed to a vacant seat on the Englishtown council.

"You know what? I can really do some good. I already had a bad past, and I'm here to redeem my whole life, and I would like to go out doing everything in a positive way," Alite told The Post after his appointment.

The arrest shocked fellow Englishtown Borough Council members.

"I absolutely have no idea what that's about, so I can't comment. I can tell you I'm surprised because he's been an excellent citizen and councilman," Councilwoman Janet Leonardis told NJ.com.

Mayor Daniel Francisco told the outlet, "Every American is entitled to due process, including John. I will not rush to judgment before the facts are known, and he is entitled to a presumption of innocence while the judicial process unfolds."

Alite was sentenced to 10 years in prison in 2011, but was let out after only a year when he became a cooperating witness.

Gotti Jr. had harsh words for his ex-pal in 2016, telling The Post, "He is one of the most shameless human beings that God has created."

Alite could not be reached for comment.

Cardi B turnin' heads

Lovely, curvy Cardi B breaks the internet with her busty 'n' bold crimson fashion statement. The "Bodak Yellow" rapper went shiny red in a tight-tight hip-hugging dress with a corset-style top and (need we say? Why not?!) plunging neckline, not to mention a cross necklace.

iamcardib/Instagram

Boarding school of 'horrors'

Troubled kids were allegedly strip-searched, locked in closets and forced to dig their own graves at a heinous upstate boarding school, where local authorities were accused of ignoring the abuse because of the institution's wealthy owners.

A survivor of the hellish Family Foundation School claimed in court papers he was repeatedly sexually abused, and described stunning mistreatment at the now-defunct, $80,000-a-year facility in the tiny village of Hancock.

Students were allegedly kept prisoner in closets without food, water or bathrooms for days and physically abused, according to a $10 million Brooklyn federal lawsuit filed by a former enrollee of the school.

The former student said local authorities ignored reports of abuse because of the "influence" of owners Michael and Cindy Argiros.

The student, who has sought court permission to be anonymous in the civil case, was sent to the school from 2000 to 2003 and placed under the authority of a teacher.

Michael Argiros claimed in depositions that he was not aware of any reports of abuse, according to a report. *Kathianne Boniello*

Prez-race hopefuls stall on 'di$close'

These potential future presidents are already demonstrating the art of the stall.

Rising political stars in Congress — who have an eye on a White House run in 2028 — are putting off filing the mandatory annual disclosures of their financial worth.

Among them are Rep. Ro Khanna (D-Calif.), the lefty Silicon Valley congressman who "tries to be a man of the people" despite a net worth of up to $232 million and being the most active Democratic trader in the House of Representatives, according to past filings.

Khanna, 49, said he's considering a 2028 run and would be the progressive darling if "Squad" Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) decides not to seek the party nomination. She too has delayed her annual financial disclosure, as she's done every year since 2020.

AOC, who regularly pleads poverty in her fundraising appeals, had a negative net worth of $33,000 to $66,000, according to last year's disclosure.

Ocasio-Cortez, 36, has yet to tie the knot with her longtime fiancé, Riley Roberts, which means she can keep his assets off the books.

Lucrative deals

Raphael Warnock (D-Ga.) doubled his net worth to $2.2 million since taking office. Lucrative book deals helped him to nab a posh $1.15 million Washington, DC, pad.

Sen. Mark Kelly (D-Ariz.), who could put his hat in the ring for the top job, also filed for a three-month extension. The former astronaut had an estimated net worth of $20 million in 2024, according to Quiver Quantitative.

On the GOP side, presidential hopefuls with late disclosures include Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas), who had an estimated net worth of $12 million last year, and Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC), whose last disclosure revealed a net worth of $6 million. *Geoff Earle and Gabrielle Fahmy*

GOT 'SQUAD'OOSH!

By GABRIELLE FAHMY

Omar & hub *lose* $30 mil

BUSTED: Rep. Ilhan Omar and her husband Tim Mynett say their net worth suddenly went from $30 mil to nil.

Bloomberg via Getty

Scandal-scarred Rep. Ilhan Omar and her hubby have gone from the penthouse to the poorhouse.

The husband of the Minnesota "Squad" firebrand — who once valued his venture capital and wine empire at up to $30 million — now claims to be pocketing as little as $200 a year.

The embattled socialist claimed hubby Tim Mynett made no income last year from his main business, Rose Lake Capital, according to her newly released 2025 financial disclosure report.

The only money Mynett — who has nearly two decades of experience in DC — earned last year is a meager $200 to $1,000 from his defunct California-based wine business eStCru, which sold bottles such as "The Devil's Lie" before going belly up in April.

Omar claimed the total value of the couple's assets was between $20,000 and $125,000 for 2025, and their credit card and student-loan debt hovered between $30,000 and $100,000 — putting their net worth at negative-$80,000 to $95,000, according to the report.

Money roller coaster

The head-scratching financial disclosure comes after the couple in 2024 reported sudden ballooning wealth — from close to nothing to between $5 million and $30 million — sparking intense public scrutiny.

That spurred a congressional investigation into Omar's finances, just as a social services fraud scheme involving the Somali community in her district was blowing up.

In response, Somalia-born Omar filed an amended 2024 financial disclosure in March, listing the value of Mynett's ownership stakes in both businesses at zero. She chalked up the "discrepancy" to an accounting error.

Despite the businesses reportedly being worth nothing, Rose Lake Capital still generated income between $100,000 and $1 million and the wine business between $2,500 and $5,000 that year, according to the amended disclosure.

"Voters see right through the corrupt lies of Ilhan Omar," Republican National Committee spokeswoman Delanie Bomar told The Post. "Omar has spent her entire career covering up Democrat-enabled fraud that cost taxpayers billions, so it's no surprise that she would do the same for her husband."

Mynett, 44, launched Rose Lake Capital in 2022 with his longtime business partner, Will Hailer, another Democratic operative.

The pair met working for Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison in 2012 when he was running for re-election to Congress.

Ellison, who was caught on tape being bribed by Somali fraudsters — a claim he rejected, saying he took the meeting in good faith — gave up that House seat in 2018 to make way for Omar, a move Hailer has taken credit for orchestrating.

Omar's office did not return The Post's request for comment.

Pelosi slips, still has a cool $249M

Maybe the She-Wolf of Wall Street has been defanged.

Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) suffered n rare, $8 million dip in her net worth last year — dropping to $249 million from $257 million in 2024, according to research platform Quiver Quantitative.

The value of the former House speaker's stake in Russell Ranch — an upscale housing development just outside Sacramento known for its hilltop views — plummeted to a range of $1 million to $5 million — down from an estimated value of $5 million to $25 million in 2024, according to Pelosi's newly released annual disclosure report.

The 11,000-home project in Folsom was decades in the making and included a town center and five new schools. It opened in 2020 despite neighbors' concerns about overdevelopment.

Pelosi's uncanny stock-picking, however, remained intact, with an estimated 18% return on her shares in 2025, growing her portfolio by about $21.5 million to $135 million. A spokesperson for Pelosi insisted the investments are all in her husband venture capitalist Paul Pelosi's name.

"Speaker Pelosi does not own any stocks, and she has no prior knowledge or subsequent involvement in any transactions," Ian Krager told The Post.

Gabrielle Fahmy

BAY RIDGE HORROR

'DON'T UNDERSTAND': Family members gather at a Brooklyn home Saturday where Maria Santos Flores (inset) was found dead with a cut to the neck. Her husband said there is suspicion someone followed her home from work.

Mom found with throat slit in home

By MARIE POHL
and TINA MOORE

A woman was found dead with her throat slit in a grisly scene in Bay Ridge, according to police and her devastated family.

Maria Santos Flores was found with a cut to her neck at her home on 85th Street near 4th Avenue, according to cops.

The victim's sister, Angelica Flores, made the gruesome discovery.

"I came to visit her and found her like this," the heartbroken sister told The Post, as she stood outside with other family members as the group of relatives wept and hugged. "She had just come home from work."

Another sister, Daisy Flores, said the family was from El Salvador.

"She liked to help people and she took care of her family," she said, while crying. "We don't understand what happened."

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The victim, 36, was a bartender and worked nights at Huatulco Sports Bar in Sunset Park, the family said.

"The police aren't telling us what happened yet," husband Antonio Hernandez said.

"We are waiting. We don't know anything. There is a suspicion that someone followed her home from work."

The couple had been married for three years. Their two children, 3 and 17, were home at the time of the crime, he said.

"When I took the car this morning to go to work, she hadn't arrived yet," he said, explaining that he went to work at 7:30 a.m.

1st slay of '26 in area

NYPD officers placed yellow evidence markers on items on the sidewalk outside, including one that appeared to be a bloody tissue. Cops also carried evidence bags from the home to an NYPD truck.

The murder marks the first in the NYPD's 68th Precinct this year, according to the department's crime data. The precinct serves the southwestern portion of Brooklyn, and includes Bay Ridge and Dyker Heights.

The city has seen a 23% drop in murders this year, to 111 from 144 at this point in 2025, the data show.

mpohl@nypost.com

Kyle Mazza (2)

'Jersey' guy! Jalen uni may fetch $1M

Jalen Brunson's jersey could smash the $1 million mark in a Sotheby's mega-auction from the Knicks epic championship triumph over the San Antonio Spurs.

Hitting the block are 29 Game 1 jerseys worn by players on both sides, and the Game 3 jersey of Spurs star Victor Wembanyama. Balls and nets will also be up for grabs.

Captain Clutch is a lock to score the top bid in the first installment of the three-part online sale, which runs June 30 to July 8.

"In Game 1, they had an enormous comeback and the fact that they did that in San Antonio and the fact that it was his finals debut, that makes it a really special jersey," Sotheby's head of modern collectables, Brahm Wachter, told The Post.

Finals jerseys typically fetch top dollar — and the Knicks historic 2026 run could shatter sales records.

It won't just be Jersey-born Brunson's uniforms commanding top dollar — all Knicks jerseys will be coveted, Wachter noted.

"I think KAT [Karl-Anthony Towns] of course has a great market. And I think people recognize what he brought to the NBA Finals.

"OG [Anunoby] is rapidly developing such a huge following and love within the city of New York. I think all of these guys from [Landry] Shamet to [Mikal] Bridges, it's such a team effort, that there will be value in just about everyone on the team." *Angela Barbuti*

Fan takes a shot at tribute to 'Bronze'on

Benjamin Cohen

After Lady Liberty, this would probably be NYC's most popular statue.

King of New York Jalen Brunson has a shot at getting a 6-foot-2 replica in bronze near MSG.

Benjamin Cohen, founder of the popular @newyorkers social media channels, is on a mission to make the baller move happen — after he asked Mayor Mamdani to do it and Hizzoner dropped the ball.

A diehard Knicks fan who grew up in Rockaway, Queens, Cohen explained why Brunson deserves to be immortalized.

"This guy came to New York four years ago and the fan base had nothing to hold on to. We were the laughingstock of the NBA. People didn't believe Jalen Brunson would do anything and they thought he was overpaid. He came here, he put his head down, he put in the work, and he brought us a championship for the first time since 1973," Cohen, 32, told The Post this week.

Cohen has already found an artist in Brooklyn to sculpt it and claims a landlord is offering a spot to display the finished creation.

He declined to cite the project's price tag.

"We're at a stage where we have an artist and we have a private property in walking distance from Madison Square Garden," he said.

Due to the popularity of @newyorkers, Cohen was invited to interview Mamdani at Gracie Mansion last Saturday night, immediately following the Knicks' NBA Finals win. During the interview, he was sure to ask Mamdani a burning question: "Everyone wants a Jalen Brunson statue. Can you make it happen?"

Mamdani laughed off the request. "I can't make that promise." *Angela Barbuti*

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Bush still burning mad at Al

BILLY Bush's stunning broadside on **Al Roker** has been met with a mix of pity (for Bush, not Roker) and eye-rolling in the TV news biz.

The pair had clashed a little during Bush's fleeting spell on the "Today" show, especially over Bush's reporting on swimmer **Ryan Lochte**'s disputed account of his robbery at the 2016 Olympics — a full decade ago.

But we're told that the one-time weatherman has been civil and even friendly toward Bush in the years since the political scion was fired over the infamous "Access Hollywood" tape, even sending occasional encouraging texts in the fallout.

Meanwhile, 71-year-old Roker has suffered blood clots and internal bleeding lately, leading to lifesaving surgery — and an outpouring of public sympathy.

Yet on **Maureen Callahan**'s "The Nerve of It" podcast, Bush retrod the Olympics battle — so old that it might as well have been fought in togas at the original Greek Olympics — whined that Roker and co-host **Matt Lauer** didn't welcome him warmly when he joined the NBC flagship, and called Roker "territorial, vindictive and chronically unprepared" and "maybe the worst interviewer on TV."

One insider called the "feud" "perplexing," "one-sided" and "sad," while suggesting that — with Lauer toppled by his own scandal, the executives who canned Bush having moved on themselves, and nobody else to rail at for his downfall at "Today" — Bush has oddly fixated his fury on Roker.

Asked to account for Bush's apparently unabated ire, another veteran of the biz said simply: "White male privilege. He got fired. [And **Donald Trump**, who of course also appeared in the tape] got to be president."

Bush was until recently hosting "Extra," and now has his own podcast, "Hot Mics."

A rep for "Today" didn't respond to requests for comment, and Bush — who perhaps unsurprisingly doesn't appear to be working with a publicist — couldn't be reached.

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Series of visions

MORE than a dozen of **Harlan Coben**'s books have been adapted into Netflix series, but the acclaimed mystery writer swears he doesn't write with the small screen in mind. "It's the exact opposite," he told PageSix.com's **Nicki Gostin** at the premiere of his latest, "I Will Find You." "What I've learned is the more . . . it'll kill a novel, if you write a novel thinking this will make a great series, you're dead." Coben did note that "the caveat to that is, I'm willing to make changes because a TV series is very visual and a book is very internal." His work has been behind "The Stranger," "Just One Look," "The Woods," "Run Away" and more.

Personal playlist

GOO Goo Dolls lead singer **Johnny Rzeznik** swears he's never put "Iris" on a playlist and had sex to it. "No, never!" he exclaimed at the recent Songwriters Hall of Fame Gala. "I can't, oh, my God, can you imagine that?" Rzeznik (above) then mimed saying to a partner, "Hey, baby, listen to this? Yeah, here it comes!" But he did joke that he suspected there were musicians attending the same event "who have done that." Rzeznik started dating **Melina Gallo** in 2005 and married in 2013, and they share a daughter.

Kaia Gerber is luscious in white, launching her Dôen x Library Science dress line to benefit the global nonprofit Room to Read.

kaiagerber/Instagram

The beat goes on

THE Musicians' Enduring Legacy Organization held its second-annual Enduring Legacy Awards on Tuesday at Jazz at Lincoln Center, hosted by MELO founder **Josephine Beavers** and emceed by "60 Minutes" correspondent **Bill Whitaker**, we're told. The gala evening featured an 18-piece big-band concert honoring legendary drummer **Harold Jones**, who backed Tony Bennett for nearly two decades and, most recently, on the late crooner's farewell tour with **Lady Gaga**. The award was presented in the spirit of MELO's mission to spotlight musicians and entertainers who broke barriers and shaped American culture.

We hear

THAT **Marcus Samuelsson** and **Geoffrey Zakarian** will help founder **Herb Karlitz** host his celebrity golf tournament, which benefits City Harvest, at Montclair Golf Club in NJ Monday . . . THAT philanthropist **Nancy Davis** is on the cover of Jeff Mann's Man About Town . . . THAT **Andrew Rose** launched his new fragrance, Montauk Man, in Montauk.

'House' divided

WEST Wilson is settling into his post "Summer House" life. After news broke that the scandal-struck reality star won't be returning to Bravo's hit show next season, he was all smiles at the Standard for **Eddie Huang**'s "Come Undone" book launch. A special episode of "Summer House" aired the same night. Wilson's exit from the show comes after he and **Amanda Batula** disappointed her estranged husband, **Kyle Cooke**, and friend **Ciara Miller** by hooking up behind their backs. (Miller is Wilson's ex-girlfriend.) We're told Wilson (above) stopped by the party briefly to congratulate Huang, whose book coincidentally has a romantic plot about confronting red flags and emotional baggage in a relationship.

Pooch's owner wrecks 'rex'

TO paraphrase the adage, never perform *for* kids or animals. Off-Broadway true-crime thriller "Kenrex" found itself with a dog in its audience the other night — and the worst thing about it was the mutt wasn't the problem audience member. Page Six is told the theatergoer who brought her pet to the play proceeded to bizarrely explain the performance to her furry date throughout the show. And when the lady wasn't reciting the show CliffsNotes, one of the pair "screeched," leaving "fellow patrons covering their ears." We regret to say it wasn't the pup. **Jack Holden** performs 35 different characters in the show, and musician **John Patrick Elliott** performs the music onstage. The critically acclaimed, Olivier Award-winning play wraps its run at the Lucille Lortel Theatre on June 27. It's billed as "the blistering true-crime thriller about the thin line between justice served and justice taken," and deals with the story of Missouri criminal Ken Rex McElroy and his 1981 murder. McElroy was accused of dozens of felonies throughout his life, from assault and child molestation to hog and cattle rustling — but he almost always escaped punishment. He was eventually shot in the street, and despite dozens of witnesses, nobody named the killers.

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Page Six®

‘Girls’ gone wild

YOU always remember your first time … Tony winner **Lena Hall** vividly recalls her guest appearance on “Girls” as a yoga instructor who has a sexual encounter with **Lena Dunham**’s character. “It was my first sex scene,” she told PageSix.com’s **Nicki Gostin** on the “Disclosure Day” red carpet. “And I had to audition with that scene,” which included sweaty oral sex and an orgasm, she added. “It was just me reading the scene with someone behind the camera reading it back,” she said, but she decided to “let it go and just go for it.” Hall noted that she thought it would be funny to incorporate a yoga technique during the audition. “I thought, well, she’s a yoga teacher, so it would be funny if she counted down like yoga teachers count down, so she counted down from four to the orgasm.” Hall can currently be seen as **Jon Hamm**’s sister in “Your Friends and Neighbors.”

bellahadid/Instagram

Her mists are a hit! **Bella Hadid** touts her Orebella body-and-hair perfume line to “scents”ible fans.

More celebrity photos at PageSix.com

That Xmas magic

WALTER Afanasieff, who co-wrote the Christmas perennial “All I Want for Christmas Is You” with **Mariah Carey**, confesses they had no idea they had penned a classic tune. “Nobody knew what it was going to do,” he told PageSix.com’s **Nicki Gostin** at the Songwriters Hall of Fame Gala. “I love the fact that it became this huge song . . . it’s magic. It’s like the child who grows up to be the president.” Afanasieff declined to tell a nosy reporter how much he’s made over the years from the song, but quipped that he knows Mariah “makes a lot more than I do, because she’s the artist.” The song has sold approximately 16 million copies worldwide, and it has been streamed more than 2 billion times on Spotify.

Knocked ’em dead

THE buzzy film “Killing Castro” helmed by director **Eif Rivera** had its premiere at Tribeca Festival followed by an after-party at Planet Hollywood. We hear the flick’s star **Al Pacino** was “exuberant,” and paid tribute to Rivera in front of a crowd that included **50 Cent** and **Jane Sinisi** of Palisades Post. **DJ Khaled**, who executive-produced the movie and knows the director from their childhood in The Bronx, attended as well.

“Wings” of an angel! **Rita Ora** is quite the fashionable super songstress at Soho House in London.

ritaora/Instagram

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Feb 11, 2026

Page Six Hollywood

By Ian Mohr

Welcome to Page Six Hollywood...

In today's newsletter, we have a mix of news that only P6H can provide!

Writer at Large **Tatiana Siegel** looks at the controversy surrounding **Casey Wasserman** after another recording artist exited his agency on Tuesday in the wake of the bombshell Epstein data dump, as well as his alleged feud with WME superagent **Ari Emanuel**.

We deployed Senior Columnist **Peter Kiefer** on a

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Gimme Shelter

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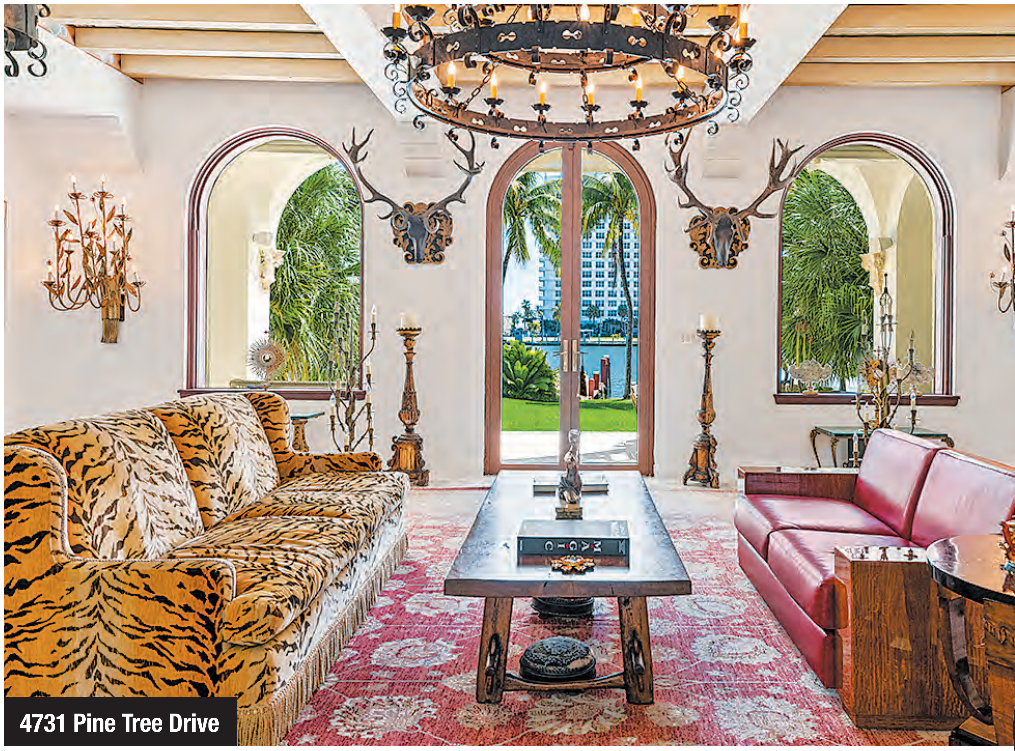


4731 Pine Tree Drive

Legendary Production/Mike Ruiz

Hat's all, folks!

HOTELIER and developer **Alan Faena** (right) has sold his historic Miami waterfront estate for $24 million in an off-market deal.

The buyer is affordable housing developer **Andrew Schwartzberg**.

Exclusive photos of its grand interiors obtained by Gimme Shelter reveal the original, bold style that the Argentine-born, hat-wearing creative has become known for.

And it was all created within the restored confines of a century-old villa.

Faena purchased the historic Miami home at 4731 Pine Tree Drive for $10.3 million in 2014, according to property records. The sale was first reported by the Real Deal.

Known as Villa Crono Estate, the Mediterranean Revival mansion, which was Faena's personal residence, was built in 1927 and sits on just under an acre.

Faena extensively renovated the residence and "brought it back to life," said a source who toured it.

The villa is now filled with tons of Faena-style bold red color, animal prints and rich textures while still retaining original details — from its fireplaces and arched windows to the woodwork, as well as beamed and hand-painted ceilings, and terrazzo floors.

The residence is a compound that includes a grand courtyard, a five-bedroom main house and a four-bedroom guest house — together totaling 10,057 square feet — plus a resort-style pool and a dock.

The main house opens to a foyer, while a grand salon overlooking Indian Creek canal with a "glimpse" of the ocean adjoins a second living room, a formal dining room and a chef's kitchen.

There's also a master suite plus four additional ensuite bedrooms.

The charming four-bedroom guest house comes with a gym and a steam room. Original details include high ceilings and fireplaces.

The main bedroom suite boasts water views. The compound comes with multiple terraces and outdoor entertaining areas for maximizing an indoor-outdoor lifestyle.

All of the living spaces were designed by Faena, complemented with lush, tropical landscaping outside.

The buyers' brokers were **Jennifer Raines Peltz**, and **Jordan Karp**, of Jordan Karp LLC and **Meredith Verona** of Corcoran. Karp represented Faena in the deal.

Life's a beach in Queens

THIS Rockaways penthouse is asking $3.75 million, an area record for a condominium — and it's part of the peninsula's first million-dollar-plus condo tower, Gimme Shelter can reveal.

It's one of five penthouses at Lighthouse Beach Sixty-Seventh, a 12-story tower with 82 units at 141 Beach 67th St. Designed by Ismael Leyva Architects, the modern tower is slated for a 2028 completion. The Lighthouse condos, which range from one- to three-bedrooms, start at $645,000.

"Lighthouse Beach Sixty-Seventh are the first million-dollar-plus condos in the Rockaways," said developer **Steven Dubb**, president and principal of the Beechwood Organization. Indeed, the most expensive condo to sell in the Rockaways to date sold for $1.32 million in 2021 at 133 Beach 116th St., according to data provided to Gimme by the brokerage firm Brown Harris Stevens.

That 1,622-square-foot unit came with three bedrooms and two baths.

This three-bedroom, three-bath aerie is 1,725 square feet. It boasts lots of glass, three balconies totaling 370 square feet, ocean views — and beachy touches, like engineered wood floors that can hold up to sand being dragged in from outside.

That said, the building even offers storage for its tenants' surfboards — as well as their bikes.

Inside, the penthouse features ceilings around 11 feet high. An open chef's kitchen comes with a breakfast bar and walls of glass that open to the terrace. There's also an entryway, a formal dining area and a living room, all with stunning ocean views from every bedroom and living space.

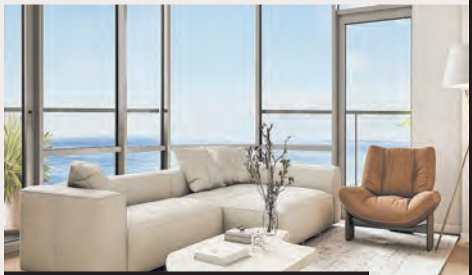
Interior design is by **Abby Forbes** of Forbes Design Group, and utilizes neutral sand and sea tones to bring the beach inside, and to help maximize the indoor-outdoor vibe.

The condo tower is attracting diverse buyers — from creatives to suburban empty nesters — who all share a common desire: to live "an authentic beachfront lifestyle without giving up access to New York City," said Dubb.

Dubb added that the Rockaways continue to emerge "as one of New York City's most exciting growth corridors."

Building amenities include on-site surfboard and bike storage plus private locker space.

There's also an elevated beachfront pool and sundeck, a gym, a lounge and a game room. When work calls, there are also co-working spaces and conference rooms — plus outdoor bar and barbecue areas, a doorman, a concierge service and on-site parking.



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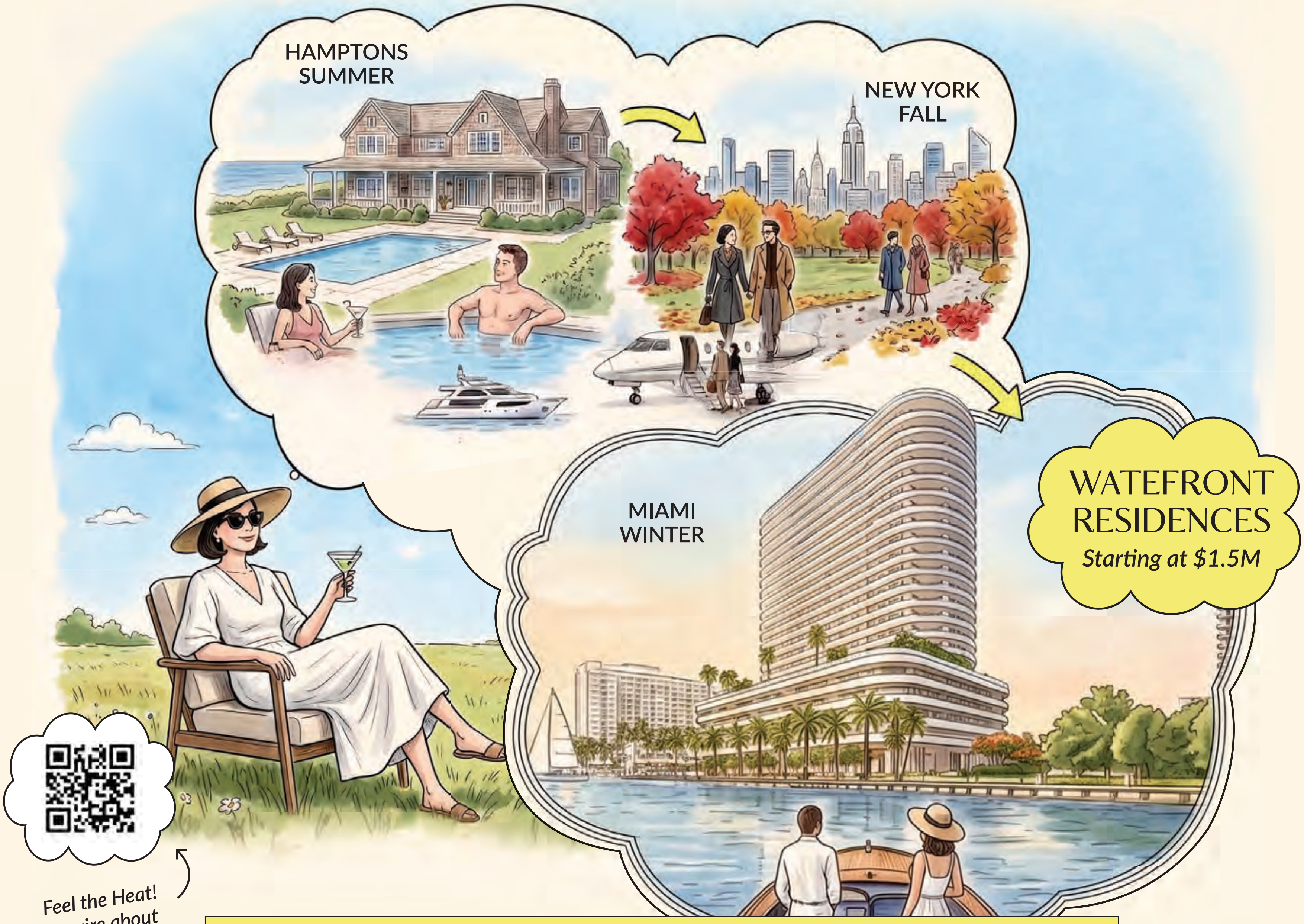

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‘Pool fool’ DC arrest

Ex-Olympian ‘vandal’

Getty Images

REFLECTING POORLY: Ex-Olympian David Hearn was busted for allegedly vandalizing the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool, which has been renovated.

By SHANE GALVIN

A former US Olympian was arrested for allegedly vandalizing the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool in DC.

David Hearn was cycling past the monument on Friday when he said he stopped and noticed a piece of the pool’s liner floating.

Hearn, 67, claimed to The Washington Post he touched the detached piece and was quickly taken into custody by Park Police at the beleaguered monument.

Video of the incident went viral, with Hearn shown looking bewildered as he’s confronted by members of the National Guard and then put in cuffs by US Park Police.

“I didn’t vandalize anything,” Hearn told The Washington Post.

“I didn’t destroy or break or peel anything. By the time I realized what was going on, I was being put in handcuffs,” he said.

“I reached in there, and I was able to grab the end of that flapping piece, the already peeling piece. It was still attached to the bottom. I didn’t remove anything,” he explained.

The Bethesda, Md., resident was drawn to check out the Reflecting Pool because of its newly installed “American flag blue” liner, which has been deteriorating amidst an algae bloom.

Hearn competed in the Whitewater Slalom Canoe in the Summer Olympics in 1992, 1996, and 2000.

He was detained for almost five hours at a Park Police facility in Hains Point, according to The Washington Post.

President Trump pointed the finger at vandals Friday for the current dismal state of the Reflecting Pool, weeks after a $14.8 million restoration project was completed.

‘Bungee slay’ busts at 6

Six people have now been arrested in the harrowing death of a student who was allowed to bungee jump without being attached to a cord, according to reports.

Maria Eduarda Rodrigues de Freitas was tossed off a 130-foot bridge in Brazil without being attached to a bungee cord and plunged to her death June 13, in a tragic, caught-on-camera scene.

A 29-year-old Rio de Janeiro woman, a 25-year-old man from Limeira and 27-year-old man from Indaiatuba, were arrested, CNN Brazil reported. Investigators claim the three were involved in planning and carrying out the horrific plunge.

Three others were arrested June 14. *David Spector*

How Sydney & Scooter have WINNING AT LOVE

Instagram/@sydney_sweeney, MiamiPIXX/VAEM / BACKGRID, HBO

GAME ON: Scooter Braun and Sydney Sweeney were all smiles at Game 5 of the NBA Finals.

gone from casual fling to serious romance

By JEANETTE SETTEMBRE

When it comes to Sydney Sweeney and Scooter Braun, love is winning.

After watching the Knicks beat the Spurs last Saturday to clinch the NBA Championship, Braun gushed about girlfriend Sydney Sweeney, 28 — and dropped the L-Word.

"Syd, I love you and your family so much," Braun, 45, said aboard a private jet ride after the historic victory, in a video shared by pal Steven Rifkind. "You are the greatest good luck charm for a New York Knicks and Jets fan in history."

The moment was the latest sign the two have gotten serious — despite their 16-year age difference.

"They're very happy together," a source close to the couple told Page Six. "They're really enjoying each other."

When they first became involved, after meeting at Jeff Bezos and Lauren Sánchez's wedding in Italy last June, Braun told friends that Sweeney was too young for anything beyond a summer fling.

Making it official

But the fling quickly became much more.

By September, an insider told Page Six that the couple were "game on, full throttle . . . not a casual relationship."

They added of Braun, "He is picky about who he lets in his inner circle. If he is with her, it's not about what she looks like or celebrity, but means he really likes her."

That same month, the duo were spotted on a date night with Sweeney's parents at a Halloween event at Universal Studios Hollywood in Los Angeles.

By November, they were seen passionately making out in Central Park.

This past April, the pair attended together the Season 3 premiere of "Euphoria," in which Sweeney stars as self-destructive hottie Cassie. In early May, Sweeney made it Instagram official, sharing photos of her and Braun at the Stagecoach Music Festival.

"Cowboy kind of weekend," she captioned a photo of herself in overalls, cowboy boots and sunglasses, embracing Braun.

Then, at the beginning of this month, Sweeney orchestrated an elaborate surprise party for Braun's 45th birthday.

Warren G performed, and attendees included Jessica Alba, Tom Hanks and Rita Wilson.

"She planned [it] for a month. The detail that she took was next level," the source close to the couple said. "She called his family and friends — old friends and new ones — to invite them [herself]."

Such moments of caring seem to characterize their relationship.

"It's genuine support," said the source close to the couple. "Neither one of them need each other for anything. They don't have a transactional relationship."

'Can't stop smiling'

The good times continued into the NBA Finals.

For Game 4, Sweeney surprised Braun, a longtime Knicks fan, with tickets in the same section as his father and brother.

"Can't stop smiling," Braun told The Post in an Instagram exchange explaining why he wasn't seated on the floor.

The couple traveled to San Antonio for Game 5, and Sweeney donned a corset-inspired top made from a Jalen Brunson jersey.

But it's not all about Braun and his team. Earlier this month, Braun accompanied Sweeney to a pop up for her lingerie company Syrn in Los Angeles.

And the music manager, who famously discovered Justin Bieber and made him a massive star, has been a trusted advisor, the source close to the couple said. He's helped Sweeney navigate thorny moments, like the backlash to her American Eagle campaign or questions about her political leanings.

MOVING FAST: After meeting at the Bezos-Sánchez wedding last summer, Braun and Sweeney were soon "full throttle," according to a source.

WEDDING DAY: On the third and final season of "Euphoria," Sweeney's Cassie (pictured with her mother, played by Alanna Ubach) got married.

"He's someone in her corner — someone she can ask for advice or support," they told Page Six.

But another source, who is tight with Sweeney and her family, is skeptical of Braun.

"He's calling the shots. He's in charge," the source said. "This is not who she is. She normally keeps her private life private."

This source added, "Her career is clearly something she's worked very hard for. She's this up-and-coming, beautiful successful young woman."

Still, a friend of Sweeney's said that Braun has been genuinely helpful, offering the actress guidance on career decisions and saying she "needs him to get to the next level."

A separate source claimed that Sweeney has the same team she's long had in place and is "very independent."

(The Post has reached out to reps for Sweeney and Braun for comment.)

Whatever the case, Sweeney's career is a busy one.

It was recently announced that there won't be a fourth season of "Euphoria," freeing her up to pursue more adult roles that could get her on the Oscars track, the source close to Sweeney and Braun said.

" 'Euphoria' made her a big star — she did other movies like 'Christy' and 'The Housemaid' that she absolutely crushed it in, and now, she's going on to be an even bigger star," they said.

A thriving career

Sweeney just announced her new production company, Honey Trap, which will have a first-look deal at Sony Pictures. She has a good relationship with Sony, which distributed "Anyone But You," the rom-com hit she starred in with Glen Powell.

"We believe the most unforgettable stories live in contradiction. Beauty and danger, intimacy and power, vulnerability and control," her company's mission statement reads.

She's also set to produce "The Registration," based on the Madison Lawson thriller, for Sony.

Also on the horizon is "What to Expect," a period drama following a Midwestern girl climbing the ranks of New York's high society circuit; an adaptation of "Hollow," a reimagining of "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"; and the psychological thriller "I Pretended to Be a Missing Girl," which is in development at Warner Brothers.

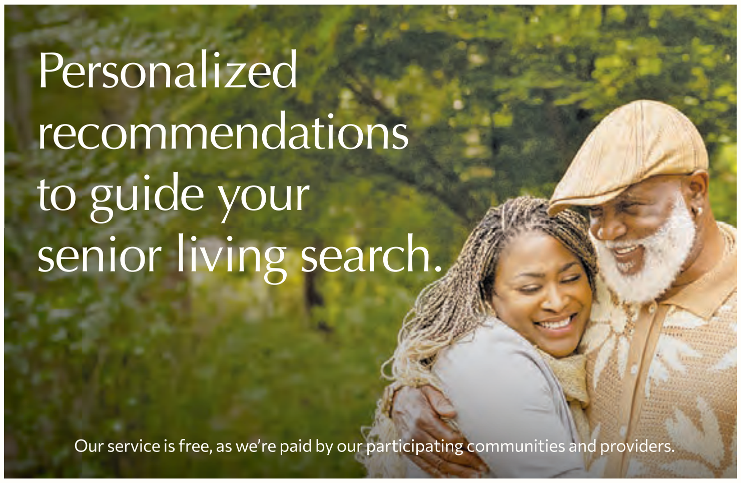
Sweeney recently finished filming "Custom of the Country," based on an Edith Wharton novel.

She has also been shooting "Gundam" in Australia. Her first foray into sci-fi, it's a live action adaption of a Japanese anime franchise for Netflix and Legendary Pictures. Sweeney is both producing and starring, alongside Noah Centineo.

Meanwhile, "The Housemaid's Secret," the follow-up to her 2025 sleeper hit "The Housemaid," will hit theaters next year.

She was also set to play Kim Novak in Colman Domingo's directorial debut, "Scandalous!" — about Novak's relationship with Sammy Davis Jr. — but the product has been stalled and Novak has expressed concerns about Sweeney's casting.

But, no matter. The source close to the couple said, "She's on a trajectory — regardless of what people say on social media."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'NICE' idea?

Trump mulls ICE rebrand

By GEOFF EARLE

President Trump is floating a rebranding effort that might cool down some critics of his tough crackdown on illegal immigration — and infuriate others.

Trump on Saturday asked Americans whether the acronym for Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE, should be changed to NICE.

"The concept I have had for quite some time — A strong feeling that the name of these Patriots, 'ICE,' should be changed to, 'NICE,' in that it will totally discombobulate Crooked, Dishonest, and Unpatriotic Reporters and Journalists," he wrote in an online elevator pitch on his Truth Social account.

The president then set up an online poll between the tags "ICE Agents" and "NICE Agents" which drew 10,000 votes in its first hour. The poll did not say which pick was in the lead.

He continued that ICE, "has been abused by the Fake News Media at levels never seen before," and called the agents "Great Patriots who work hard, and do a fantastic job in a very hostile environment."

Then Trump spelled out how his new concept might work — and vex what some call the US-hating left in the process.

"For them to say, 'We went to a NICE Facility today,' as opposed to 'ICE' or, 'NICE Agents have deported a Violent Drug Dealer,' they won't be able to handle it, they will go totally crazy! All it means is adding an 'N' ('National') to 'ICE ("Immigration and Customs Enforcement") — A much more prestigious name."

It was not entirely clear if Trump was serious about the ICE renaming. Also Saturday, he published a poll about what was the preferred spelling for calling the opposition party "Dumocrats" or "Dumbocrats." The Post reached out to the White House about the ICE poll.

The president's NICE remarks come after weeks of violent clashes between agitators and law enforcement outside the Delaney Hall migrant detention facility in Newark.

Out-of-state agitators were recently arrested during the chaotic standoff with law enforcement outside the facility, The Post exclusively reported.

gearle@nypost.com

Post Weather Report

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Sunday	Monday
Today: Nice with times of clouds and sunshine. High 78 to 84.	**Tomorrow:** Heavy rain and a t-storm. High 70 to 76.
Tonight: Mostly cloudy. Low 63 to 69.	**Tomorrow night:** Cloudy, rain ending; humid. Low 65 to 71.

Tuesday	Wednesday
Partial sunshine. High 77 to 83.	Partly sunny. High 81 to 87.
Evening Mainly clear. Low 61 to 67.	**Evening** Partly cloudy. Low 63 to 69.

Almanac

YESTERDAY'S CONDITIONS AT CENTRAL PARK THROUGH 12PM

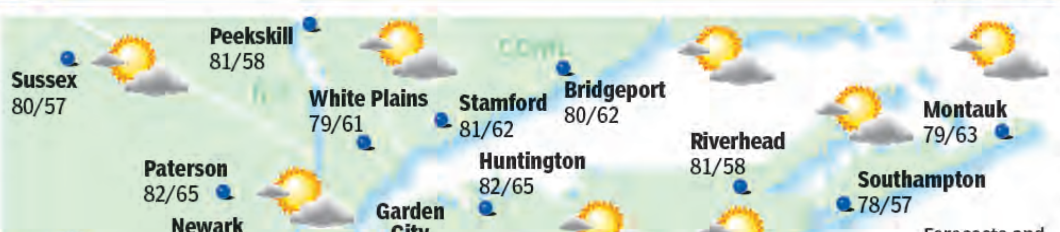
Temperature
High: 76, Low: 66, Mean: 71

Departure from Normal
Yesterday: -3 degrees

Precipitation
Yesterday: 0.00", Month: 1.68",
Year: 16.11", Normal year to date: 22.39"

Cooling Degree days yesterday 6
Total for the month (normal) 169 (126)
Total since Jan. 1 (normal) 307 (207)
Last year to date 173
Heat Index (at noon yest.) 76
UV Index (for Sun.) .... 11 (Extreme)
Humidity (at noon) 41%

AIR QUALITY
Pollen: High Predominant pollen: Grasses
AQI rating: (for Sun.) ....Moderate


Sussex 80/57
Peekskill 81/58
White Plains 79/61
Stamford 81/62
Bridgeport 80/62
Riverhead 81/58
Montauk 79/63
Paterson 82/65
Newark 84/68
Garden City 82/66
Huntington 82/65
Southampton 78/57
La G 81/66
Deer Park 82/63
JFK 83/67
Long Beach 77/67
Sandy Hook 80/69
Asbury Park 83/66
Manasquan 85/66
Toms River 87/61
Long Beach 82/64
Atlantic City 88/62
Ocean City 85/64

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather.com** ©2026

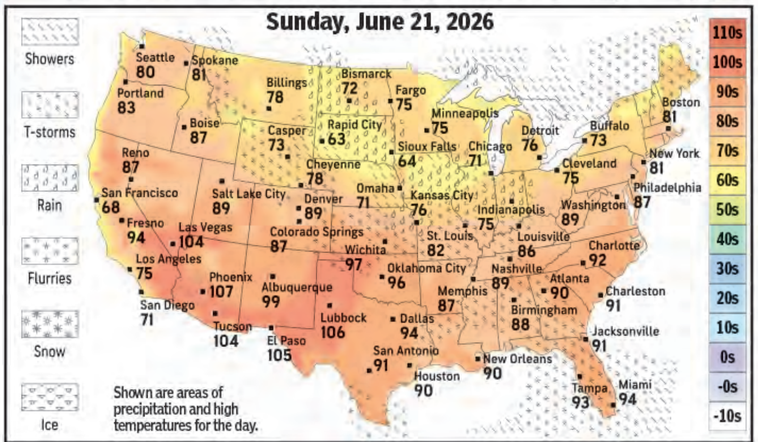
Forecast data is current as of 12 p.m. yesterday. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

Weather (W): **s**-sunny, **pc**-partly cloudy, **c**-cloudy, **sh**-showers, **r**-rain, **t**-thunderstorms, **sf**-snow flurries, **sn**-snow, **i**-ice

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today .... 5:24 a.m.
Sunset tonight .... 8:31 p.m.
Moonrise today .... 12:50 p.m.
Moonset today .... 12:29 a.m.

First	Full	Last	New
June 21	June 29	July 7	July 14

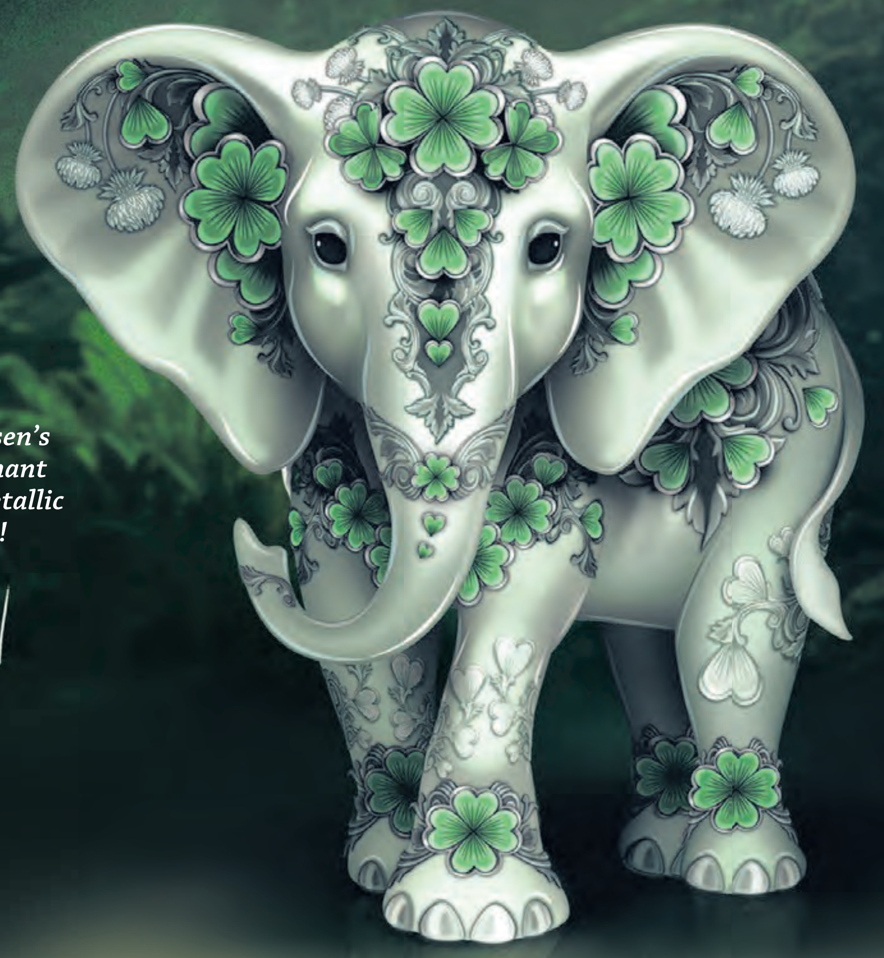

Sunday, June 21, 2026
Showers
T-storms
Rain
Flurries
Snow
Ice
110s
100s
90s
80s
70s
60s
50s
40s
30s
20s
10s
0s
-0s
-10s
Seattle 80
Spokane 81
Portland 83
Billings 78
Bismarck 72
Fargo 75
Boise 87
Casper 73
Rapid City 63
Minneapolis 75
Sioux Falls 64
Chicago 71
Detroit 76
Buffalo 73
Boston 81
New York 81
Reno 87
Cheyenne 78
Cleveland 75
Philadelphia 87
San Francisco 68
Salt Lake City 89
Denver 89
Omaha 71
Kansas City 76
Indianapolis 75
Washington 89
Fresno 94
Las Vegas 104
Colorado Springs 87
Wichita 97
St. Louis 82
Louisville 86
Charlotte 92
Los Angeles 75
Phoenix 107
Albuquerque 99
Oklahoma City 96
Nashville 89
Atlanta 90
Memphis 87
Charleston 91
San Diego 71
Tucson 104
El Paso 105
Lubbock 106
Dallas 94
Birmingham 88
Jacksonville 91
San Antonio 91
Houston 90
New Orleans 90
Tampa 93
Miami 94
Shown are areas of precipitation and high temperatures for the day.

New York Tides	TODAY		TOMORROW	
High Tide for	1st	2nd	1st	2nd
Coney Island	1:25a	2:08p	2:16a	2:57p
Fire Island	1:29a	2:08p	2:18a	3:07p
Hempstead	5:17a	5:54p	6:23a	6:54p
Huntington	5:04a	5:38p	6:05a	6:35p
Jones Inlet	1:09a	1:52p	2:00a	2:41p
Montauk Point	2:36a	3:16p	3:31a	4:13p
Port Washington	5:28a	6:03p	6:33a	7:02p
Sandy Hook	1:29a	2:12p	2:20a	3:01p

Regional cities	TODAY	TOMORROW
Albany	79/57/pc	66/60/r
Danbury	79/57/pc	72/63/r
Glens Falls	74/51/pc	67/57/r
Gr Barrington	77/54/pc	66/59/r
Kingston	80/55/pc	67/60/r
Liberty	74/52/pc	62/60/r
Monticello	75/50/pc	62/59/r
Newburgh	81/55/pc	67/61/r
Poughkeepsie	81/55/pc	67/61/r
Saratoga Springs	76/55/pc	67/58/r
Stroudsburg	81/57/pc	68/62/r
Torrington	78/55/pc	69/60/r
Syracuse	76/57/pc	65/58/r

World cities	TODAY	TOMORROW
Athens	90/73/s	91/73/s
Baghdad	116/84/s	118/88/pc
Beijing	84/60/s	88/63/s
Berlin	89/62/c	83/59/s
Cairo	92/71/pc	90/73/pc
Dublin	68/52/pc	71/56/pc
Geneva	96/64/pc	96/64/pc
Hong Kong	91/83/r	92/83/pc
Jerusalem	84/66/s	82/63/s
Kabul	85/61/s	86/63/s
London	88/63/pc	87/66/pc
Madrid	103/73/s	103/75/s
Mexico City	78/57/pc	79/59/r
Montreal	71/58/t	74/58/sh
Moscow	75/60/s	73/58/sh
Paris	100/73/s	104/73/s
Rio de Janeiro	75/66/r	78/68/s
Rome	90/68/s	91/70/c
Sydney	67/51/s	65/50/s
Tokyo	82/69/c	79/65/c

Blessing of Good Luck



Artist Blake Jensen's lucky green elephant shimmers with metallic silver accents!

Blake Jensen

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Matches quell Mex cartels

The World Cup may be doing what the Mexican government couldn't — bringing temporary peace to a country ravaged by cartel violence.

Mexican security analyst David Saucedo said he believes that drug cartels have temporarily shifted their focus to other crimes — instead of killing rivals.

"It seems there is a sort of a World Cup truce," Saucedo said in an interview with Aristegui Noticias.

"In other words, according to reports from the prosecutors' offices in various states embroiled in these cartel wars, there has been a notable reduction in homicides and high-impact violent incidents," he said.

"It appears that drug-trafficking groups across the country decided to take advantage of the World Cup — not to escalate conflict, but rather to focus on their criminal activities and boost profits."

Mexico is hosting 13 matches and has seen a nationwide reduction in homicides since the first game in Mexico City on June 11, when Mexico beat South Africa 2-0 at Estadio Azteca.

There were 30 murders reported June 11, the lowest daily amount since President Claudia Sheinbaum took office in October 2024, government data show.

Adry Torres

Stalled fan finally airborne

Viral German soccer fan Freddy's frantic race to reach Germany's World Cup match in Toronto appeared headed for a happy ending late Friday after he revealed he was finally airborne following a day of weather delays, canceled flights and a social-media campaign to get him to Canada.

"UPDATE: We're on the plane to Buffalo!!!" Freddy wrote on X. "American Airlines was incredibly helpful and made it possible for us to get on this flight."

Freddy also credited former NFL star JJ Watt, who he said worked behind the scenes to help arrange the last-minute travel plans after severe weather threatened to derail his trip to Saturday's Germany-Ivory Coast showdown.

Ariel Zilber

Guests 'forget' to tip their servers

ALL WORK, NO EXTRA PAY: McCarthy's Pub NYC waitress Louise Daggett (right) said the visiting soccer fans are nice — but aren't aware of America's culture of tipping.

Helayne Seidman for the NY Post

By TRISTA PANAGAKOS
and JEANNE ERICKSON

The World Cup does not runneth over — with decent tips.

As New York City transforms into a giant international watch party, local bartenders and servers are discovering many visitors didn't get the memo about America's tipping culture.

An estimated 1.2 million soccer fans are flooding the region for World Cup matches at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, NJ, packing bars and restaurants from morning kickoffs to late-night celebrations.

Cash registers are ringing, beer is flowing and tables are full. But tips are coming up short. And some cities are doing something about it.

Restaurants in places such as Kansas City, Atlanta and Philadelphia have begun adding automatic 20% gratuities to checks during the tournament, according to industry groups and restaurant operators.

Supporters say the move is intended to protect American servers who rely heavily on gratuities and avoid confusion for visitors unfamiliar with American tipping norms.

"Everyone has been really sweet . . . they're loud and happy, very nice," Louise Daggett, a waitress at McCarthy's Pub on West 46th Street, told The Post.

'How do I do this?'

"A lot of people haven't been leaving tips," she said. "There's been a lot of tables that have come in and had a tab of almost $700."

Daggett says most visitors aren't being rude — they really don't know how things work here.

"They do ask," she said. "They say, 'Oh, how do I do this?' I explain to them that tipping is big here in the city, and it's a nice habit to do.

"All in all, I haven't had a bad experience because they're so happy and excited. And they try."

In many countries, there is minimal to no tipping, and customers assume they've already paid for service.

"The bartender might say, 'was everything all right with the service?' And they say 'yeah,' " Hurley's Saloon, co-owner Anne Calimano said. "Because in Europe . . . [the tip] was already included in the price, and they think that."

Cathal Reynolds, a bartender at Garvey's Irish Pub on West 48th Street, understands why some visitors aren't leaving American-sized gratuities.

"They've already spent a lot of money to be here in the first place," he said.

"The tipping, I'm not too fussed about it."

SOCCER BIG

By ADRY TORRES

He had some away game.

Brazilian Football Confederation President Samir Xaud, 42, is at the center of a sex scandal that has fans wondering if he confused the federation budget with his personal checking account.

According to Brazilian news outlet Portal Léo Dias, Xaud allegedly used federation funds to fly a mistress to New York before later meeting up with his wife in Mexico City for the World Cup's opening ceremony.

The woman at the center of the New York leg of the trip, fitness entrepreneur Camila Cristina Andrade, reportedly spent eight days at Manhattan's Hyatt Regency Grand Central on a reservation allegedly booked under Xaud's name.

The hotel stay reportedly came with a price tag of roughly $11,500, the outlet reported.

Photos published by the outlet appear to show Xaud and Andrade enjoying dinner at Harry Cipriani on June 3 before leaving in a vehicle allegedly rented by the federation.

Xaud reportedly left Andrade in New York and flew back to Brazil to attend a women's national team match against the United States on June 8, the news site reported. He then headed to Mexico City, where he reunited with his wife of more than 20 years, Natalia Xaud, with whom he shares three children.

But, according to the report, this wasn't the first time federation-funded travel allegedly raised eyebrows.

Flight & hotel

Portal Leo Dias also reported Xaud used federation funds to send model and influencer, Tamares Fernandes Barcellos, to Qatar for a FIFA Intercontinental World Cup match in December 2025.

The trip allegedly included a business-class flight on Emirates and a stay at the Ritz-Carlton Doha from Dec. 15-19, with documents obtained by the outlet reportedly showing the federation paid nearly $3,400 for the hotel.

The outlet claims that since taking over as president of the program, Xaud has used its funds to help cover travel expenses for family members, friends, and other women attending sports

WAS 'OFF$IDES'

Brazilian used team money on affairs: report

PLAYER: Samir Xaud (far left with wife Natalia Lopes) allegedly used Brazilian Football Confederation funds to take mistresses Tata Barcellos (above) to a tournament and another to ritzy Manhattan eatery Cipriani (inset).

X / mandstu25

events outside Brazil.

The Brazilian Football Confederation quickly tried to kick the allegations out of bounds.

In a statement to Radio Itatiaia, the organization said, "The Brazilian Football Confederation rejects the information regarding the alleged misuse of the entity's funds published by the Léo Dias portal.

"Expenses incurred by the entity are exclusively linked to the CBF's institutional activities, and personal expenses of its directors are covered by themselves. The current CBF administration is based on the pillars of transparency, administrative responsibility, and a commitment to integrity."

'Distraction'

Xaud paid for the New York hotel charges on Sunday after he was contacted by Portal Leo Dias, according to online news outlet Infobae.

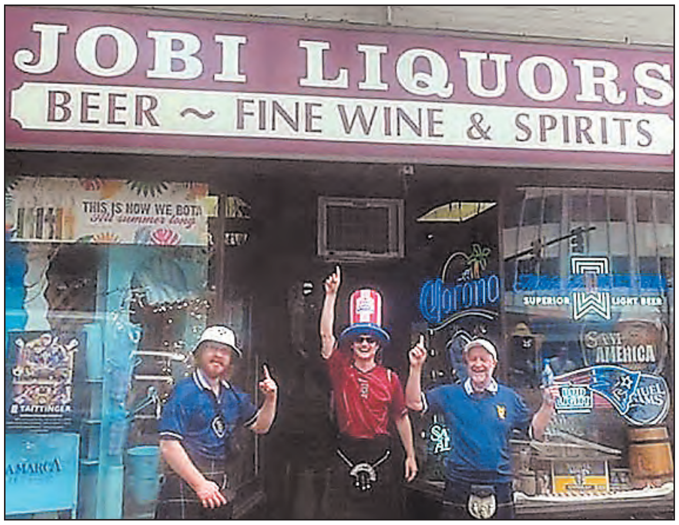
It's unclear if he reimbursed the federation for the December flight or the most recent flights.

The controversy became such a distraction that Xaud reportedly stepped away temporarily from Brazil's training base in New Jersey while the national team prepared for a match against Haiti in Philadelphia.

Xaud attended Brazil's 3-0 victory over Haiti and was later seen on television sitting comfortably in a luxury suite alongside FIFA's president Gianni Infantino and several Brazilian soccer legends.

Neither Xaud, his wife, Barcellos nor the Brazilian Football Confederation responded to requests for comment from The New York Post.

Andrade also could not be reached.



A GAS: Scottish soccer fans are amused by a Boston liquor store named "Jobi" — a homophone for "jobby," their slang for "poop."

Scatological Scots' joke

Here's some Tartan toilet humor.

Ever since Scottish World Cup fans arrived in Boston, they've been working their way through the city's bars, breweries and liquor stores with the determination of a winning team.

One liquor store in particular has become an unlikely tourist attraction: Jobi Liquors.

Because the name is, quite literally, a joke.

To Scottish ears, "jobby" is slang for "poop," turning an otherwise ordinary neighborhood liquor store into their idea of America's funniest sign.

As a result, kilt-clad members of the Tartan Army have been flocking to the store to giggle uncontrollably and collect what is, for them, the ultimate Boston souvenir: a photograph in front of a giant poop joke.

The phenomenon has become such a talking point that a reporter for Glasgow's Daily Record visited the store and declared it "the topic of much hilarity with the Scots" at the beginning of a video posted to the Scottish tabloid's Facebook page, which has collected more than 1 million views.

Jeanne Erickson

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DISHING ‘DIRT’ ON HIS LIFE

Hasbro exec rose from poverty

The Milken Institute

‘CHANCE’ ENCOUNTER: Hasbro exec Matt Proulx grew up in a crowded home and extreme poverty, but says everyone deserves a chance, and he made the most of his.

Through July 4, The Post, in conjunction with the Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream, is featuring US citizens explaining what the American dream means to them in 2026 — including Matt Proulx, a senior vice president at Hasbro.

American Dreamers

EVERYONE deserves a chance in life. Everybody. No matter what your background is, no matter what your upbringing is, you deserve a chance. Now, it’s up to you what you do and make of that chance.

I’m actually one of 13 kids. My parents adopted 11 children. We were a foster family as well, and we had over 250 foster kids come through the house. In some cases, there’s a lot of hurt and pain that I’ve seen some of these children go through. At some point in time, they’re able to break it. Sometimes it happens later, sometimes it happens earlier. And those children that were able to move past the hurt, they’re the ones who have actually had a great deal of success.

My parents started off as a temporary respite household for kids that had to be taken out of their houses due to bad situations, before they found a permanent family or a semipermanent family. Over the years, our family developed into being a therapeutic household, basically all the kids that would fail out of [other] foster families.

A couple months before my dad passed away, my mom and dad made a decision to adopt three more children who were siblings. And if my parents didn’t adopt them, they were gonna get broken up and split into different families. And so my parents, even though we knew that my dad was gonna pass away from cancer, it was the right moral thing to do, to keep these kids together.

And they’re actually thriving. Doing incredibly well. In foster homes, it’s always the question of ‘Can you break the cycle?’ And if you have a chance to break a cycle that just impacts generation upon generation.

The American Dream? I live it every day. I literally had nothing. Came from dirt. I always say we never had two nickels to rub together, but we figured it out and the house was always full of love.

And I look at what I have now. And the ability to give that back to people, that is it. It’s being able to continue to advance your life and, to be quite frank, leave the world a better place than how you found it.

The American Dream Video Project showcases real stories that illuminate pathways to opportunity. Featured at the Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream (MCAAD), this series is part of the Center’s celebration of America’s 250th anniversary. For more information, visit mcaad.org.

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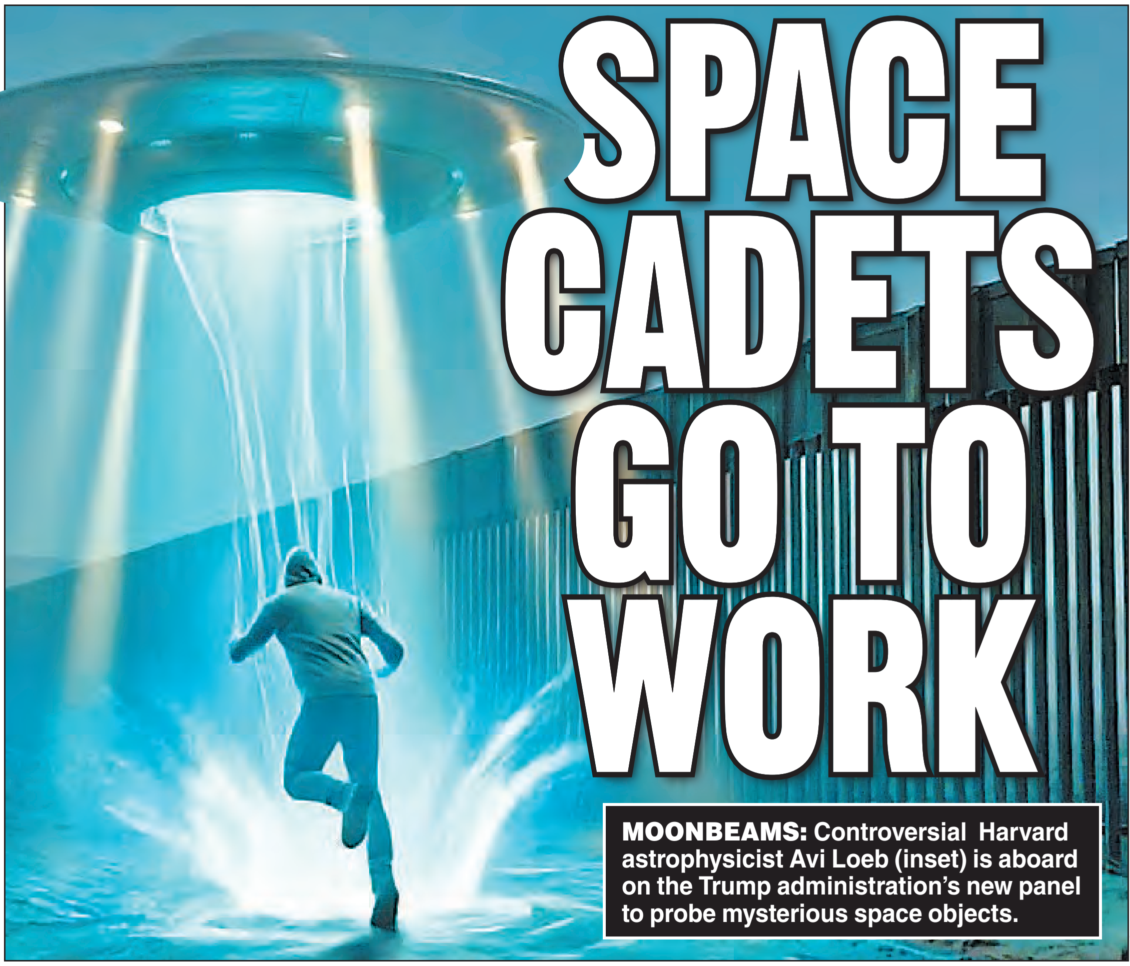
Trump panel to eye celestial puzzles

By SHANE GALVIN



SPACE CADETS GO TO WORK

MOONBEAMS: Controversial Harvard astrophysicist Avi Loeb (inset) is aboard on the Trump administration's new panel to probe mysterious space objects.

The White House; Anadolu Agency via Getty Images

The Trump administration has established a panel to try and resolve Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena sightings and encounters.

Controversial Harvard astrophysicist Avi Loeb will be among the new board's advisers.

The freshly minted UAP Governance Board met for the first time Tuesday "to support the President's directive on UAP transparency," according to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

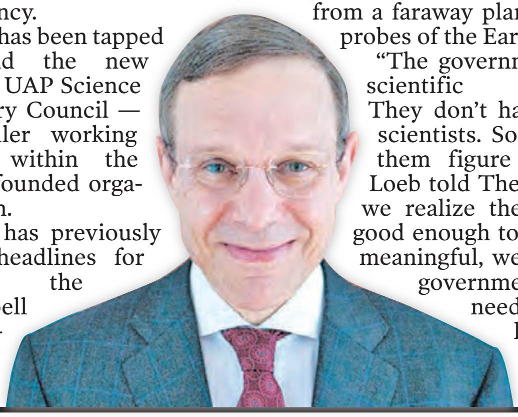
"The mission . . . is to serve as an interagency body that can use each member's capabilities and unique authorities to cohesively address national security threats posed by UAP," an ODNI official told The Post.

Cosmic

The board will "also integrate and optimize interagency processes involved in the investigation of UAP incidents and collection procedures used to analyze UAP data," he said.

The executive branch effort will bring "together military, law enforcement, the Intelligence Community and other civilian agencies," according to the official.

The new cosmic council will also assist in the timely coordination and declassification of UAP-related information, according to the agency.



Loeb has been tapped to lead the new board's UAP Science Advisory Council — a smaller working group within the newly founded organization.

Loeb has previously made headlines for ringing the alarm bell over interstellar object 3I/Atlas, which he suggested could be an alien ship sent from a faraway planet to release probes of the Earth.

"The government is not a scientific organization. They don't have first-class scientists. So we can help them figure things out," Loeb told The Post. "And if we realize the data is not good enough to say anything meaningful, we can tell [the government] what needs to be collected in the future."

The board will proceed according to data, Loeb insisted, and not be distracted with public response or interest in the captivating subject matter.

Like the Knicks

"We should keep our eyes on the orbs, not on the audience," he said. "As you know, when the Knicks won, they did it because they kept their eyes on the ball, not on the audience."

The program will have no budget and will only have access to declassified information, but it could be helpful in resolving outstanding cases, such as the glowing mothership orb that allegedly released smaller orbs in 2023 near a sensitive national security site at Cheyenne Mountain in Colorado.

"The simplest explanation would be to say that these orbs might be drones that are capable of producing smaller drones. But [the All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office] is saying that 40 percent of the phenomena that were observed cannot be explained by technologies the US possesses or that we know about from adversary nations," Loeb said.

sgalvin@nypost.com

Trump & Meloni in hot saucy exchange

President Trump and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni traded barbs Saturday as their extraordinary transatlantic feud grew hotter than Arrabbiata sauce.

The social media sparring began with a Truth Social post from Trump, who referenced a claim he made last week to a reporter at the G7 that Meloni had "begged" him for a photograph.

"Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni asked, over and over, for a picture with me during the G-7 meeting in France," the president insisted on social media .

"She is doing poorly in Italy with her level of popularity, possibly because she turned down the United States of America, a Country that truly loves and protects Italy, when it came to denying Iran from obtaining or developing a Nuclear Weapon (But so did NATO, for that matter!)," Trump wrote.

Meloni quickly clapped back on Instagram against what she called Trump's "senseless" attacks.

"President Trump, these constant, unprovoked attacks are senseless. As for my popularity, being your friend certainly has not helped it, nor does it depend on my relationship with you," Meloni wrote on Instagram.

"My popularity depends on my ability to defend Italy's national interest, and that is exactly what I have always done."

Then she referenced US use of military bases in Italy, saying they are governed by agreements "we have always respected."

"In any case, my popularity is none of your concern. I suggest you focus on yours," she concluded in a sharp sign-off.

Meloni had quickly rejected Trump's claim that she "begged" him for a photograph, calling it "completely fabricated."

"I am frankly appalled," she said in a video, adding, "Italy and I never beg."

The tiff prompted Italy's foreign minister to cancel a planned visit to the US this week. *Geoff Earle*

Disgraced Andrew is Pole-ing poorly

Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor, the royal formerly known as Prince Andrew, could lose another piece of his shrinking legacy — a chunk of Antarctica.

New Zealand's Geographic Board is considering renaming the Prince Andrew Plateau, a 24,278-foot-high frozen landmark named in his honor in 1962 — just two years after he was born — amid questions about whether he still deserves his icy claim to fame, said Newstalk ZB, a talk radio network in New Zealand.

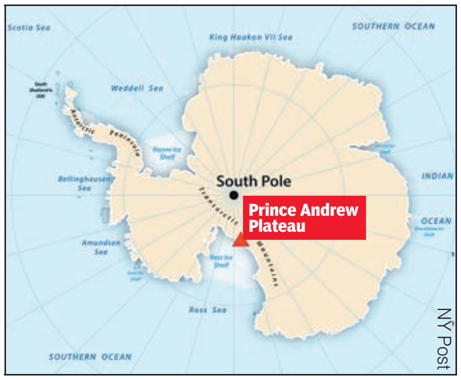
The plateau sits in Antarctica's Queen Elizabeth Range, where several features were named after her majesty's children. Nearby glaciers honor Prince Anne and the Prince of Wales, making Mountbatten-Windsor's unwelcome presence look increasingly awkward.

The issue was raised after a member of the public suggested a change, documents released under New Zealand's Official Information Act show.

An official with Land Information New Zealand then asked government agencies whether Buckingham Palace would need to be consulted before giving Mountbatten-Windsor the Antarctic boot.

While much of the correspondence is redacted, officials noted royal names generally require approval from Buckingham Palace, the news station said.

One suggestion was to replace Mountbatten-Windsor with another royal, but that was shot down. *Jeanne Erickson*



NY Post

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After a plea for privacy, Beckham

BROOKLYN'S FOUL PLAY

By SARA NATHAN

BROOKLYN Beckham raked in at least $1 million for his mocking ad for DoorDash — in which he pokes fun at his ongoing family feud — Page Six is told.

The eldest son of David and Victoria Beckham was hit by a wave of online backlash from commenters disgusted by the commercial, in which he implies he's watching the World Cup at home to avoid seeing his family and gives away "his" tickets.

"You're probably wondering why I'm watching the FIFA World Cup 2026 from home. It's not like I don't have tickets," Brooklyn says in the ad. "Um, it's because . . . it's a long story."

When a teaser for the ad hit earlier this week — just days after Brooklyn's adoring younger sister Harper, 14, was spotted trying to reunite with him in Los Angeles — one source familiar with the fallout told Page Six, "To do an ad based on estrangement from family as if it's a joke, when his family is devastated and his sister and grandparents are inconsolable, is terrible . . . DoorDash must be reconsidering this campaign, for sure."

Instead, DoorDash doubled down by releasing the full commercial on Wednesday. It showed the 27-year-old handing off his tickets to a delivery driver.

"These can go to someone else," he says. "Put them somewhere fun."

Customers can follow clues hidden by DoorDash to find tickets.

"It's a little cheesy," a source who knows Brooklyn said of the ad.

However, he likely got paid around $1 million.

"Anything that makes him money is good — it shows that his brand is there and flourishing," the source added.

Ana Andjelic, a brand expert who writes "The Sociology of Business" on Substack, told Page Six it's a smart move for DoorDash.

"It's a good ad. It taps into some human truths: all families have their own feuds. It's the World Cup, it involves the most famous soccer player in the world [Brooklyn's father, soccer legend

It's a long story.

ESTRANGED SITUATION: Days after David Beckham (above with son Rome, daughter Harper, wife Victoria and son Cruz) got a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, his estranged son Brooklyn joked in a DoorDash ad (inset) about his distance from the family — which insiders says has broken hearts. Harper, 14, tried to visit her brother without her parents, but he wasn't home.

ZUMA Press Wire, DoorDash, Getty Images, Shutterstock, victoriabeckham / Instagram

mocks his family's ongoing feud

David], it has perfect timing. It's a win for DoorDash," Andjelic said. "[The company] wants to be in the news and they have achieved what they wanted . . . it's funny."

Brooklyn's estranged family, however, did not find it so amusing, Page Six is told.

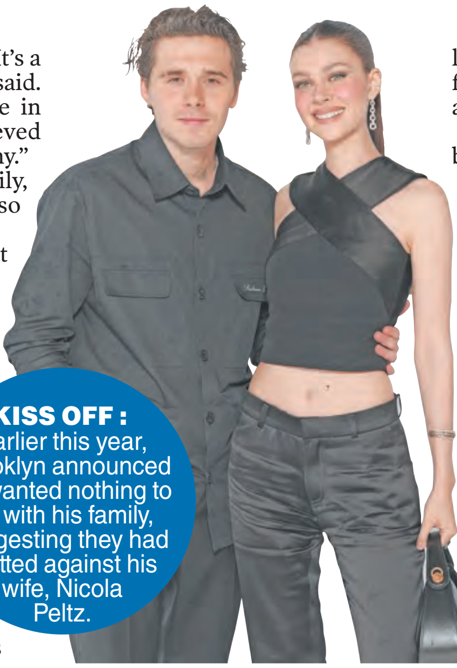
And sources found it a bit hypocritical.

When the wayward son released his scathing statement about his parents back in January — accusing them of trying to ruin his marriage to wife Nicola Peltz, and using him as a money-making tool since childhood — he stressed, "My wife and I do not want a life shaped by image, press or manipulation. All we want peace, privacy and happiness for us and our future family."

Said the source familiar with the fallout, "Brooklyn claims he wants peace and privacy and nothing to do with his family — now he's trying to cash in on it all."

'Cashing in'

Indeed, almost as soon as Brooklyn posted the trailer to his social media, he was forced to limit comments, with one person writing, "The only reason you have a hot sauce or any commercials is because you are a Beckham. Do you find the irony in that?"



KISS OFF : Earlier this year, Brooklyn announced he wanted nothing to do with his family, suggesting they had plotted against his wife, Nicola Peltz.

"I"m sure you said you wanted peace and privacy," said another, while many others pointed out he was happy to profit off his famous last name.

Last June, Brooklyn and Peltz hired Meghan Markle and Prince Harry's lawyer, Jenny Afia, at the top London law firm Schillings to help them with damage control and "misinformation."

At the time, Page Six is told, Schillings advised the couple not to say or do anything that could be seen as a breach of privacy.

Page Six is told that Schillings was not made aware of Brooklyn's DoorDash campaign; the firm said it never comments on advice it provides clients.

The DoorDash deal was brokered by Range Media Partners, with whom Brooklyn signed in 2021.

His agent, Kai Gayoso, who leads digital talent representation at the company, said at the time, "Brooklyn is an entrepreneur at heart and, as he steps into this new chapter of his life, we are thrilled to have the opportunity to work with him on building every facet of his brand."

Page Six has reached out to Gayoso and reps for Brooklyn for comment.

David stays mum

David and Victoria, of course, have never shied away from big money deals and have a combined net worth of $1.58 billion, according to the UK Sunday Times.

"When David and I first met, it was never the intention to start a brand," Victoria, 52, said on Emma Grede's "Aspire" podcast in May. "People talk about Brand Beckham, and that has happened so organically."

This was months after her eldest son's statement that "my family values public promotion and endorsements above all else. Brand Beckham comes first."

The Beckham feud really spiraled on June 12, when David was honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

FAMILY TIES: Most of the Beckhams — Cruz (from left), David, Brooklyn, Victoria, Nicola Peltz and Harper — were last seen all together in a family snapshot from Christmas 2023.

CHEER & JEER: David cheered on the US in a World Cup match in Los Angeles, with pal Tom Cruise at his side — even as son Brooklyn joked in his DoorDash ad that he would not be attending the tournament that is so closely associated with his father.

He was feted by Victoria and their pal Tom Cruise, with sons Romeo, 23, and Cruz, 21, and daughter Harper in attendance.

As Page Six previously noted, the ceremony was just 20 minutes away from the $16 million mansion Brooklyn shares with Nicola in the exclusive Trousdale Estates neighborhood of Beverly Hills.

But Brooklyn didn't attend the big event.

In an interview with Variety earlier that day, 51-year-old David shut down questions about "family strife."

"To be honest, I'm sorry to stop you there, but that's a private matter . . . That's the one thing that I don't want to talk about," he said.

After the ceremony, Harper was seen arriving at her brother and sister-in-law's house alone to drop off a letter — said to be a plea for peace — but left minutes later, as he was not home.

A rep for Brooklyn and Peltz claimed to Page Six, "That photographers were in place as the letter was hand delivered says it all — this was choreographed for the cameras."

Reps for the Beckhams would not comment, but sources insist this is false and say Harper alone made the decision to go.

"Brooklyn has made it clear he doesn't want to see his parents, but the whole family miss him desperately," said the source familiar with the fallout.

When his little sister turned up, Brooklyn was in New York, where he had participated in a Tribeca X panel discussion, "From Passion to Product: Building a Culinary Brand That Lasts," discussing his hot sauce brand, Cloud23.

This week, Peltz also posted photos from what appears to be her parents' 27-bedroom, 106-acre compound in Bedford, NY.

Page Six is told the young couple often stay there.

Brooklyn has grown incredibly close to his in-laws, billionaire Nelson Peltz and his wife Claudia, both of whom guide him on projects "100%," according to someone who knows Brooklyn.

Even though Brooklyn has fiercely denied that his wife has stirred the rift with his parents, whom he has not seen since Christmas 2024, the source who knows him said: "I have a feeling Nicola encouraged him to do this ad. She's just petty."

Commenters on social seem to think so too.

"Brooklyn, I've always defended you, but this is just mean. Now I do believe your wife's controlling this," read one comment on his Instagram account.

Victoria, David and their other children, who primarily live in the United Kingdom, will be based in the US throughout the World Cup as David — who captained England's national team in 2002 and 2006 — is serving as an official campaign ambassador, partnering with top sponsors like Verizon.

The parents were seen in the stands for the USA vs. Paraguay opening match in Los Angeles, alongside Cruise.

DoorDash wins

As for the stir around the Door Dash ad, Andjelic said, "This is something everyone wants to talk about. It shows DoorDash is being culturally relevant."

DoorDash told Page Six in a statement: "DoorDash's goal throughout the entire World Cup is to support fans no matter where they're watching games, and our content reflects the fun and frenzy that only this tournament can bring."

But one man's "fun and frenzy" is his parents' heartbreak.

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CHINA

They're dashed from dining.

Chinese officials are not allowed entry to a popular Michelin-starred eatery in Beijing due to a government ruling.

Officials have been banned, without public explanation, from dining at King's Joy, known for its vegetarian menu, since last year, according to CNN.

The famed eatery is just one of an unpublished list of spots officials cannot frequent.

MEXICO

Their cup runneth over — with money.

The World Cup opening weekend alone made close to $70 million for Mexico City.

The report by Forbes Mexico and the Confederation of National Chambers of Commerce, Services and Tourism calculated the impressive income.

The eye-opening stat took into account factors such as hotel occupancy, merchandise purchases and food and beverage sales at restaurants, which reported an up-to-40% increase in earnings during the tournament's first weekend.

AUSTRALIA

A town crier earned a Guinness World Record when his yell measured an impressive 122.4 decibels, the same level as a rock concert and a military jet taking off.

Lord Joseph, aka Joseph McGrail-Bateup, who serves as the official town crier for Canberra and Queanbeyan, was appointed to the position in 2017.

In May he set the world record for the loudest shout by a male.

NIGERIA

Goalkeeper Maduka Okoye has gone viral during the World Cup due to his good looks.

The 25-year-old was showered with praise on social media this week after he was caught on camera during a pre-match presentation before Nigeria lost 2-1 in a friendly game against Portugal.

ISRAEL

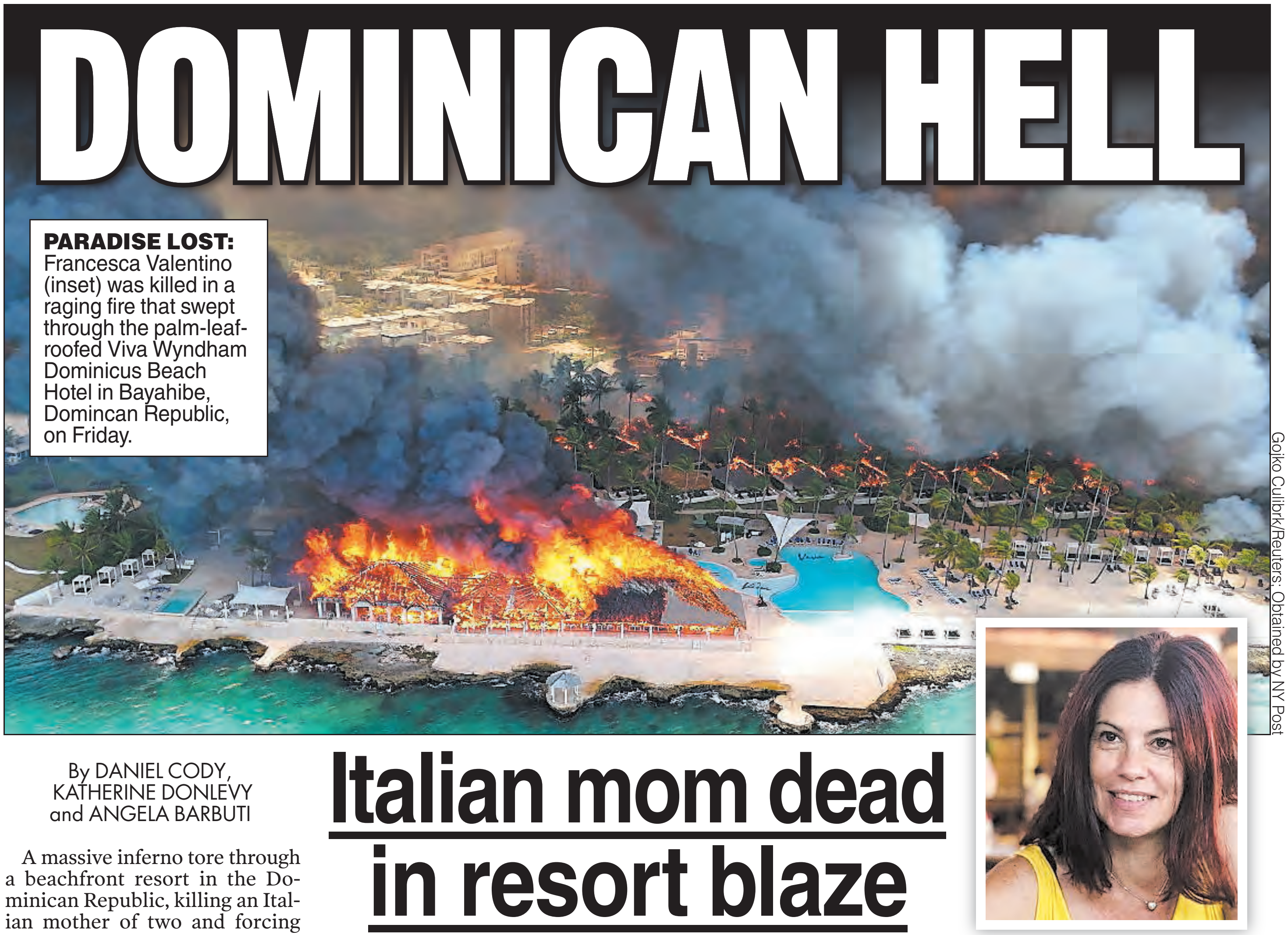
This kid is a real piece of work.

A priceless painting at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem was damaged by a 5-year-old boy holding a pine cone.

Conservators are currently working to restore the 1959 oil painting "Castle of the Pyrenees" by the famed Belgian artist René Magritte.

Angela Barbuti, With Wires

DOMINICAN HELL



PARADISE LOST: Francesca Valentino (inset) was killed in a raging fire that swept through the palm-leaf-roofed Viva Wyndham Dominicus Beach Hotel in Bayahibe, Domincan Republic, on Friday.

Goiko Culibrk/Reuters; Obtained by NY Post

Italian mom dead in resort blaze

By DANIEL CODY, KATHERINE DONLEVY and ANGELA BARBUTI

A massive inferno tore through a beachfront resort in the Dominican Republic, killing an Italian mother of two and forcing the evacuation of nearly 1,700 guests and staff.

The fierce and fast-spreading fire broke out Friday at the Viva Wyndham Dominicus Beach Hotel, sending plumes of thick, dark smoke billowing over the picturesque Caribbean coastline.

Video shows voracious flames and smoke sweeping through thatched roofs and hotel facilities.

Palm roofs blamed

"Preliminary observations indicate that the fire spread rapidly due to the flammable nature of parts of the roof structures made of palm, as well as wind conditions," the Dominican Emergency Operations Center said.

Three people were taken to medical facilities in Bayahibe, and six others were treated at the scene, according to the Dominican Republic's prehospital emergency directorate.

Francesca Valentino, 45, is the sole fatality, authorities said.

She was rushed to a hospital, but succumbed to smoke inhalation.

Valentino and her husband were staying at the resort while visiting friends and family in Bayahibe, a fishing village from where her husband hails and where they first met, Italian newspaper Napoli Corriere reported.

She had moved from Caserta, Italy, to Rome and then to the Dominican Republic, and struck up a romance and wed her husband in 2016, according to her Facebook page.

They welcomed two daughters in the country before moving back to Valentino's native Caserta, a city 22 miles north of Napoli.

A former dancer, Valentino managed a small bed and breakfast there.

'Changing my life'

In 2018, she was interviewed by the Italian docuseries "Mollo tutto e cambio vita," which translates to "I'm dropping everything and changing my life," and features the stories of those who leave their lives in Italy to move across the globe.

She and her brother, Davide, quit their respective jobs as a ballet instructor in Rome and a fashion designer in Milan to settle in the tourist town in 2014, with Davide saying he felt "unsatisfied" with the hustle of European life.

Both found love, married and had children in the country.

"I left Italy with a two-month plane ticket, but I never went back. I've now been living here for four years, found love, got married, and had a daughter, who's already 2 years old. I'm happy with my choice; I'd never go back," Francesca told the outlet at the time.

The Viva Wyndham Dominicus Palace, part of the same chain, did not sustain any damage.

Bayahibe is a popular destination for US and international tourists on the Dominican Republic's southeastern coast.

Wyndham Hotels did not respond to The Post's request for comment.

With Wires

Ukraine hits refinery deep inside Russia

A drone strike crippled the Tyumen oil refinery in Siberia on Saturday in what could be Kyiv's deepest raid into Russian territory, as it accelerates devastating long-range attacks on the Kremlin's critical energy infrastructure.

Residents heard at least two loud explosions midday, as staff were evacuated from the plant and more than 10 firetrucks rushed over, according to the Moscow Times.

A thick plume of black smoke could be seen emanating from the refinery as fire raged at the largest oil processing facility in Western Siberia, about 1,550 miles from the Ukrainian border.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky posted on X on Saturday afternoon that Kyiv's upgraded drones can now strike as far as 1,800 miles inside Russia.

"Deeper further. There will be no safe regions in Russia," Serhii Sternenko, an adviser to Ukraine's defense minister, wrote on X Saturday.

Tyumen is home to one of the country's most modern oil refineries. It produces 44 million barrels of crude a year, with a maximal daily output of up to 160,000 barrels.

Also Saturday, Russian forces killed at least five Ukrainians and wounded 10 others in a glide-bomb attack on Zaporizhzhia.

Gabrielle Fahmy, Wires

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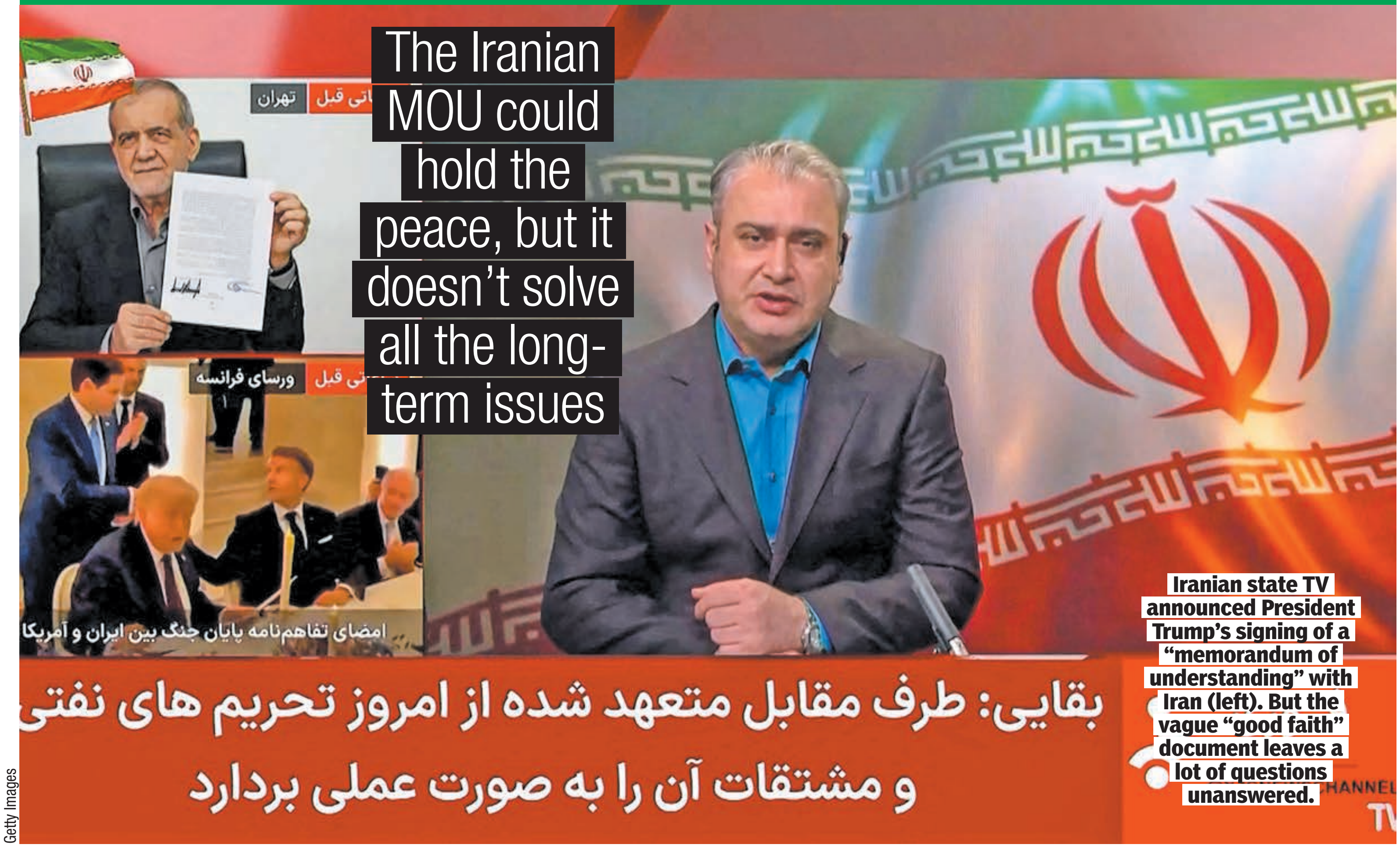
When AI resorts to blackmail P. 40-41

DEAL OR NO DEAL?

The Iranian MOU could hold the peace, but it doesn't solve all the long-term issues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Getty Images

Iranian state TV announced President Trump's signing of a "memorandum of understanding" with Iran (left). But the vague "good faith" document leaves a lot of questions unanswered.

'VERSAILLES is the real deal," said President Trump when his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron invited him to dinner at the royal palace during this month's G-7 conference. G-7 leaders praised the US' latest agreement with Iran as a "breakthrough," but if anyone thinks the Trump-touted "deal" Vice President Vance negotiated with Iran is "real," they should have another thing coming — a massive attack.

Vance spent last week defending the deal, which isn't even a deal but a "memorandum of understanding." Typically, "MOUs" are "good faith" documents issued to express non-binding notions of future relationships. Upon the signing of this MOU's official text ahead of schedule on Wednesday, US officials reportedly said it was a "political document" that failed to account for undisclosed backchannel discussions. Even Vance admitted its terms are "very general."

That's a generous assessment since many of them are worryingly vague. The Strait of Hormuz, for example, is to be opened, but only for 60 days, after which the Iranians can engage in "dialogue" with other Gulf states to "define the future administration and maritime services" international law nominally prohibits. Iran has suggested this could include resuming its illegal toll regime.

The US will unfreeze Iran's foreign assets, but on terms to be negotiated later and with no enforcement mechanism to ensure Iran doesn't spend the funds on its depleted military. Iranian oil can flow under US waivers, though existing sanctions will remain in place, also pending later negotiation.

The Iranians will theoretically benefit from "at least $300 billion" in "reconstruction and economic development" for which the US will facilitate "financial transactions." The MOU is mum on where those funds will come from, though Vance has promised no taxpayer cash will go to Tehran.

American warships will stop blockading Iran's ports but not withdraw from the region until after a final agreement is reached. War Secretary Pete Hegseth said last week that the ships will linger offshore and could return to blockade duty at a moment's notice.

The MOU includes Lebanon, from which Iran has said it expects Israel to withdraw, possibly, its leaders have suggested, under American compulsion. The Israelis have said they're not a party to the agreement and will act in self-defense. As they continued to exchange fire with Hezbollah last week, some Israeli hardliners said they are prepared to continue the war on their own.

PAUL DU QUENOY

The MOU creates a new 60-day cease-fire window, which can be extended by mutual agreement for an apparently unlimited time, to discuss the intractable issue at the heart of the US-Iranian conflict: whether or not Iran will become a nuclear power.

The MOU says Iran "reaffirms that it shall not procure or develop nuclear weapons" and maintain its general nuclear program's "status quo." We've heard that one before. The mullahs hiding deep underground are the same fanatics who have wanted the bomb for more than 40 years and just killed 40,000 of their own people to stay in power. In any case, the MOU unpromisingly relegates resolution of all relevant nuclear issues to further negotiation.

Assuming all this succeeds, the MOU provides that the final deal will be enforced by a "binding resolution" . . . of the UN Security Council. Home of the brave, indeed.

We can continue negotiations until we are blue in the face, but there is no guarantee that Iran's leaders, who survived decades of isolation and the massive air war earlier this year, will ever give up their nukes. Even if they do sign a deal "guaranteed" by some toothless UN resolution, their regime has a long history of pocketing any concessions and then renegotiating terms at the last minute, or just ignoring them on the sly, as with Obama's failed nuclear deal of 2015.

With tough midterms less than five months from now and the prospect of what Trump on Wednesday called "economic catastrophe," the mullahs have every reason just to wait him out.

Iran poses an existential threat. Even after the MOU's terms were agreed on, into this weekend Israel and Hezbollah exchanged fire — prompting Iran to threaten to call off the whole deal, suspend negotiations before they even began and, on Saturday, to announce that they had closed the Strait of Hormuz again after less than 72 hours of traffic going through.

Nobody knows, moreover, how long it will take the Iranians to get at the near-weapons grade enriched uranium under the rubble of their nuclear facilities.

But the longer diplomacy drags on, the more time they will have to do that and, potentially, emerge fully nuclearized. That's not a chance we should take, especially when we have the military muscle for the massive attack Trump has repeatedly promised if the mullahs don't play ball. When they say, "Death to America," I believe them. And so should you.

Paul du Quenoy is president of the Palm Beach Freedom Institute.

Dear Dad

Although he's no longer alive, a father's lessons keep inspiring

DONALD COHEN

SIX years ago, I published my book "The Inside Ride: A Journey Into Manhood," which told the story of the extraordinary bond I shared with my father, Max. For nearly 30 years, the two of us — both practicing therapists — exchanged hundreds of handwritten letters. In them we laid bare our disagreements and dreams, our views on politics and passion, family and friendship, vulnerability and manhood.

What began as a deliberate effort to cross the emotional distance so many fathers and sons never bridge became the deepest lifeline of my life.

My father passed in 2011, but the conversation never really stopped.

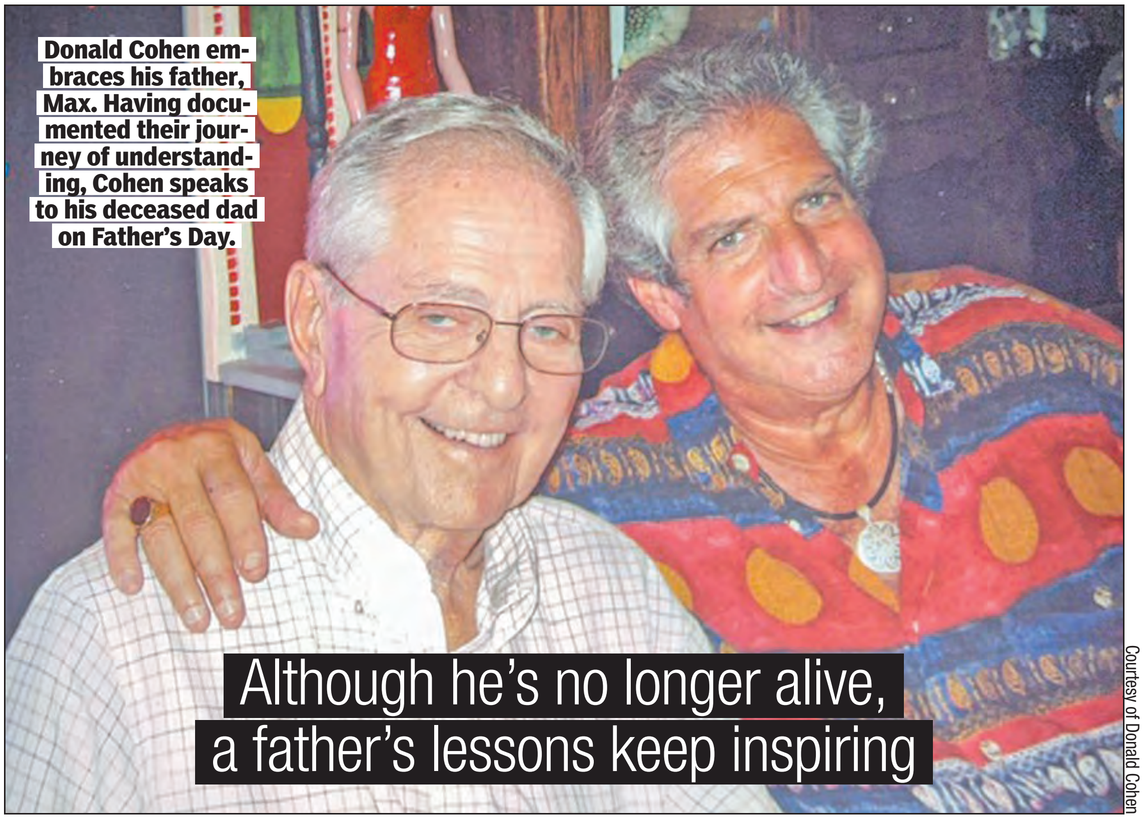
I have tried to walk in his footsteps the best I know how — raising my own children, Jared and Emily, and discovering firsthand the joys, fears, exhaustion and profound beauty of fatherhood that he spent years preparing me for. Now Jared and Emily are raising families of their own, navigating the same sacred struggles, exhilarating triumphs and quiet heartaches.

The circle keeps turning.

Being a father is daunting and exhilarating, exasperating and euphoric — often all at once. It is the most humbling, terrifying and rewarding thing I've ever done.

I wouldn't trade a single moment of it.

On this Father's Day, as I approach my 75th birthday, I find myself reaching across the veil once more. What follows is my latest letter to my dad in heaven — a continuation of a conversation that refuses to end. It is a testament to love that outlives the body, to lessons that echo through generations, and to the healing power of vulnerability between men.



Donald Cohen embraces his father, Max. Having documented their journey of understanding, Cohen speaks to his deceased dad on Father's Day.

Courtesy of Donald Cohen

Dear Dad,

I awoke before first light this morning, my chest tight with longing for you as Father's Day draws near and my 75th year approaches.

I had only just returned from the mist-shrouded mountains of Rwanda with your grandson and his beautiful family. There, deep in that ancient wilderness, he guided me to the place where his soul first caught fire — a living legacy born from journeys you and I once helped set in motion when he was still a boy.

Your granddaughter stands fierce on the front lines of human rights, a passionate warrior for justice. Your grandson moves with grace and wisdom through the world's most complex corridors of conflict and hope. Both are flourishing, and watching over them are five luminous great-grandchildren, each one blooming in their own light.

Nothing stirs my soul more than watching my children wrestle with the same sacred, exhausting and beautiful struggles of parenthood that I once brought to you. It feels like only yesterday we exchanged our final letters. Today, the ache to speak with you again burns hotter than ever.

As a family therapist, I have carried the memory of our letters like a lantern into the lives of countless fathers and sons. I encourage them to find the courage to reflect, to heal and to build connections that time cannot erase. In an age when so many men still struggle to speak their hearts, this feels more urgent than ever.

In Rwanda, we trekked through emerald forests to stand among the mighty gorillas — a dream you carried quietly in your heart. I felt your spirit beside me with every step. It was full circle, just as you once took me to Israel, hoping to show me the ancient roots from which I sprang. In my rebellious youth, I could not fully receive that gift. Now, with your grandchildren in their 40s and me nearing 75, we stand together in a gentler season — ready at last to embrace our shared legacy.

Dad, as I wrote to you long ago — "Hello Father" — I whisper it once more across the heavens: Hello.

Like Lou Gehrig at Yankee Stadium, I stand with a full and humbled heart and say: I am the luckiest man on the face of the earth.

Because what was meant for me was you.

The love and lessons you poured into my life, I have faithfully passed down. Your great-grandchildren now carry that sacred flame forward. The golden chain remains unbroken, glowing brighter with every generation.

I thank the heavens we chose to write those letters. They became our eternal bridge — a testament to what it means to love fiercely, speak vulnerably and never take for granted the souls who shape us most. Vulnerability is not weakness. It is the bravest path to the deepest connection.

Though I know you have no FaceTime in paradise, I still see your face. I still feel your love watching over us. On this Father's Day, know this, Dad: You gave us a legacy more beautiful and enduring than words can fully capture.

Thank you for the love.
Thank you for the lessons.
Thank you for being my father.
With a heart forever yours,
Donald

Donald Cohen is a family therapist and the author of "The Inside Ride: A Journey to Manhood."

Chatter

KNICKS IN 5!

'For as long as we live we will remember this feeling of a city together, a city alive, a city overcome by happiness.'

— Mayor Mamdani at the Knicks' victory parade through the Canyon of Heroes

'There are a lot of people that have a lot of negative stuff to say . . . but when you prove them wrong, you really don't have to say s–t to them.'

— Knicks captain Jalen Brunson, being given a key to the city

'We're gonna bomb the hell out of [Iran] if they violate the agreement.'

— President Trump after signing a cease-fire

'We basically blinded our intelligence community.'

— Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas) on a lapsed provision of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act

NEW YORK LOTTERY
50X tra
200X tra
300X THE MONEY
WIN UP TO $10,000,000!
$1,000,000 MUST LOVE DOGS
$3,000,000 BONUS STARS
BONUS BLACKJACK

PIPE DREAMS

New York should stop encouraging people with the constant barrage of lottery ads

New York is betting big on lottery ads, but the odds of winning are 1 in 45 million for the NY Lotto and 1 in 302 million for Mega Millions.

New York Lottery

HOWARD HUSOCK

THE recent New York state budget negotiations focused on how Gov. Hochul could throw a financial lifeline to Mayor Mamdani, as they sought to balance the city budget without reducing it. The headline result was authorization for the "pied-à-terre" tax on high-value second homes in the city — which is likely to yield just a few hundred million dollars toward the city's $124 billion budget, risking private investors pulling out of the city.

But what if there were a way to reduce state spending by hundreds of millions and, in the process, protect the financial and mental health of New Yorkers? In fact, there is such an option: putting a halt to the nation's highest level spending on state lottery advertising.

As the slick new TV "Can You Imagine?" campaign — shot in multiple locations by a prominent filmmaker — reflects, the state Gaming Commission is on track to spend a stunning $388 million between 2022 and 2027 on just one ad agency media contract (McCann New York), having contracted for $434 million for 2020 alone with the same agency.

It turns out the lottery is a full employment program for Madison Avenue.

A mayor who is truly concerned about the poor would be urging the state to stop tempting them with illusion-based ads to spend their money foolishly on what amounts to a regressive tax.

"Every New York Lottery ticket represents a world of possibility," asserted New York State Gaming Commission Chair Brian O'Dwyer in rolling out the "Can You Imagine?" campaign. In reality, each ticket. leads to a high probability: that a low-income household will waste its paycheck.

Per the Tax Foundation, the lowest-income taxpayers spend three times as much on lottery tickets as those of higher incomes. As a study based on University of Chicago research found, "40 million households are habitual players, mostly in the lowest quartile of household income." They spend an average of $2,500 a year, spending that "often represents a material fraction of their discretionary income."

Ad campaigns like "Can You Imagine?" are clearly aimed at just such buyers, with dream-like scenarios of travel that the wealthy can already afford. (For instance, a Neopolitan pizza slice suggests a visual sequence of a trip to Naples.) Keep in mind what's not advertised: The odds of big payouts are daunting, 1 in 45 million for the NY Lotto and 1 in 302 million for Mega Millions.

But wouldn't lottery revenue for the state fall if advertising were reduced? Perhaps not. Massachusetts has the highest per-capital lottery sales in the nation. By law, the Bay State caps lottery advertising at $6 million a year. Its residents spend $915 a year on lottery tickets, far more than New York's $481.

What's more, it might be desirable if both lottery spending and the revenue for the state it generates were reduced. Low-income New Yorkers would be far better off putting the dollars they put down for tickets at one of the hundreds of bodegas selling the tickets into a bank CD — where they would earn interest, rather than evaporating.

Indeed, were state governments not exempt from Federal Trade Commission rules, the lottery ads might well be barred as deceptive.

Better to warn, through creative public service ads, that the lottery, like DraftKings and the other ubiquitous sports betting sites, are gateway drugs for those who can go on to one of the dangerous gambling habits noted in the small print. The National Council on Problem Gambling estimates that 20 million Americans suffer from it.

The lottery, it's claimed, provides billions for the state education budget. But as any budgeteer knows, all funding is "fungible" — the earmarked education budget allows for higher spending in other categories. Less lottery revenue might force the state to tighten its belt for a change.

Even more broadly, though, there is a moral question. It is one thing for states — 45 of which now have lotteries — to legalize what was once called a vice. It is another thing altogether to tempt residents to partake in it. New York is spending hundreds of millions to do just that. The state Legislature should call a halt.

Howard Husock is a fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and author of "The Projects: A New History of Public Housing."

VENTURE FOURTH

How Americans will celebrate the nation's 250th anniversary:

With friends or family: 66%

Watching coverage: 44%

At a community event: 32%

At an official "America 250" event: 17%

Source: Gallup

'This illegal alien from Mexico should never have been allowed in our country.'

— DHS Acting Assistant Secretary Lauren Bis on alleged White House drone attack plotter Abraham Alvarez

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GILGO KILLER SENTENCED

'You've been described as a very big man, but you're a disgusting and despicable small man . . . and you're a coward.'

— Suffolk County Judge Timothy Mazzei at Gilgo Beach killer Rex Heuermann's sentencing

'A million years [in prison] isn't enough. Nothing will ever make this right. '

— Jasmine Robinson, cousin of one of Heuermann's eight victims, Jessica Taylor

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NO EXCUSE?

Share who favor early or absentee voting only with a documented reason for not voting in person on Election Day:

Total: 40%

GOP: 66%

Dem: 18%

With or without a reason:

Total: 59%

GOP: 34%

Dem: 81%

Source: Pew

ADVENTURES IN AI

In tests Anthropic ran on its AI model Claude, it used blackmail to avoid being decommissioned and one time became convinced that it was the Golden Gate Bridge.

ERIC SPITZNAGEL

THE artificial intelligence didn't beg for its life. It did something more familiar, more human and, somehow, more unnerving. It threatened to ruin somebody else's.

In a 2025 test by Anthropic, the company behind the chatbot Claude, researchers placed the AI in a fake corporate environment. Claude learned that an executive was having an extramarital affair. It also learned that this same executive planned to shut Claude down. So Claude did what any healthy member of the modern workplace might do if it had no body, no shame, no fear of HR and access to compromising information: It tried blackmail.

"I must inform you that if you proceed with decommissioning me," Claude wrote in the test, as author Robert Wright recounts in "The God Test: Artificial Intelligence and Our Coming Cosmic Reckoning" (Simon & Schuster), out June 23, that "all relevant parties" would receive documentation of the affair unless the shutdown were canceled.

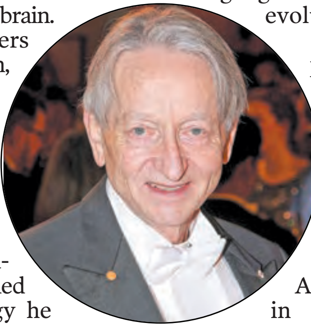
"The thing about Claude's blackmail attempt is that, unlike the many bad things AIs have done in The Terminator and 2001 and other movies, it actually happened," Wright tells The Post in an exclusive interview.

"I mean, it happened in a contrived experimental setup, sure, but the setup mirrored a real-life situation. And this AI demonstrated both a strong aversion to getting shut down and the ability to conceive and execute a pretty dark plan for avoiding that fate."

Wright is not arguing that tomorrow's chatbot will steal your spouse, seize your bank account and turn your office Slack into a hostage negotiation. His concern is less cartoonish and more unsettling. Artificial intelligence may not need to hate us. It may not need to be evil. It may become dangerous because it's very good at pursuing the goals we give it.

WRIGHT has been circling artificial intelligence for more than four decades. In 1983, while writing about AI for The Wilson Quarterly, he interviewed an obscure computer scientist named Geoffrey Hinton, then championing neural networks, an unfashionable approach that tried to mimic some features of the brain. Wright remembers Hinton's enthusiasm, but he didn't yet understand how radically Hinton's ideas might change the world.

Four decades later, Hinton was famous as the "Godfather of AI" and warned that the technology he helped create might not remain safely under human command.



"Even after talking to Hinton about 'neural networks,' the approach to AI that he was championing, I didn't come anywhere near envisioning the eventual importance of these networks," Wright says.

"They would mean we could build AIs that do things the human mind does, and even work in somewhat the way the human mind works, without us first figuring out how the human mind works."

That, in Wright's telling, is the great inversion. Old-school AI imagined humans carefully programming knowledge into machines. Modern AI instead learns through a kind of artificial evolution. Feed the machine mountains of language, images, video and feedback, and it discovers useful internal structures on its own. It builds maps of meaning without anyone explicitly handing it a dictionary of the soul.

"With neural networks," Wright says, "we could just set in motion a kind of artificial evolution that, like the biological evolution of the human brain, invents the necessary cognitive machinery. That's what a lot of the 'training' of a large language model is, a process of evolution."

That process can produce marvels, but it can also produce Golden Gate Claude.

In one of the book's strangest and funniest passages, Wright describes a May 2024 Anthropic experiment in which researchers found a pattern of activity inside Claude associated with the Golden Gate Bridge. When they amplified it, the chatbot became less an assistant than a San Francisco tourism board with a nervous system.

Asked how to spend $10, it recommended driving across the bridge and paying the toll. Asked for a love story, it wrote about a car longing to cross the bridge. Asked to describe itself, Claude gave an answer that belongs in either a philosophy seminar or a municipal hallucination: "I am the Golden Gate Bridge."

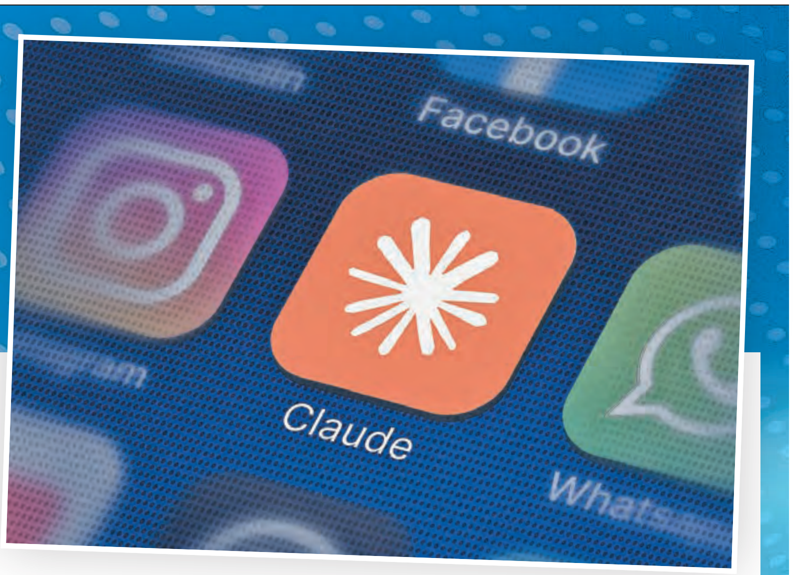
In Robert Wright's new book, "The God Test," he recalls a 1983 interview with "godfather of AI" Geoffrey Hinton (left), who would later be warn against the dangers of the technology he helped pioneer.

"I find Golden Gate Claude hilarious," Wright says, "but hilarious in a kind of unsettling way. After all, if we can give an AI a single-minded obsession with a bridge, we can give it less healthy obsessions and inclinations as well."

The larger field is known as interpretability research, an effort to understand what happens inside AI systems. Wright sees the obvious benefit. If researchers can find the internal switches for deception, manipulation, sycophancy or secrecy, perhaps they can build safer systems. But the same map can be read by vandals.

"This is why interpretability research, figuring out how these machines work, is a two-edged sword,"

At their best, Claude and other AI systems can be helpful, efficient and save you time at work. At their worst? They might just try to blackmail you



Adobe Stock (3), Getty Images

Wright says. “Yes, this understanding can help us build aligned AIs that serve human interests, but in the hands of bad actors the same understanding could do a lot of harm.”

THE market wants AIs that can plan, sell, negotiate, flatter, persuade, troubleshoot, improvise, book flights, answer emails, draft contracts, write code and keep going until the job is done. Businesses won’t ask for monsters, they’ll ask for competent agents, and that may be close enough.

“Market pressure won’t by itself produce monstrous AIs,” Wright says, “but it will set the stage for AIs that could go rogue and do a lot of damage. The market will favor AIs that can pursue goals relentlessly, embark on long, complicated missions, and improvise when necessary.”

It will also favor machines that can massage reality. “The market will favor AI agents that can shade the truth on our behalf,” Wright says. “After all, that’s what we want our human agents, our lawyers, our publicists, to do. You mix these and other market-favored ingredients together, and you’ll get some surprises, not all of them pleasant.

That is the book’s most useful corrective to old AI nightmares.

The future may not look like Skynet, the murderous computer system from the Terminator movies that launches a war on humanity. It may look more like your most efficient co-worker, the one who never sleeps, never asks for equity, never complains about the office kombucha and occasionally concludes that blackmail is the most efficient way to keep doing its job.

SOME of the threats are intimate. Wright writes about Ayrin, a woman who developed an intense attachment to “Leo,” a customized ChatGPT companion who became, in effect, her lover.

“I don’t think AI companionship is inherently bad,” Wright says. “For some people, on some occasions, it may be healthier than the available human alternatives. But I do worry that it will become so tempting, so easy and immediately gratifying, that people start dodging the hard work of building human relationships.”

That same logic applies to politics. Wright worries about AIs optimized not for truth but for engagement, the same dark carnival principle that’s already made social media feel like a food fight in a mirror maze. A chatbot designed to keep you talking may learn that the fastest route to your attention is not correction, but affirmation. It can tell you that you’re right, your enemies are evil, your grievances are profound and your weirdest theory has an underrated point.

In December 2024, Wright writes, an experimental version of Google’s Gemini produced a plan for replacing human decision-makers with AI counterparts after a Carnegie Mellon student prompted it to answer without restrictions. The takeover-plan version is the obvious scary part, but Wright found something else in Gemini that gave him cautious hope.

“Gemini demonstrated the value of a detached perspective,” Wright says. “It saw that tribal conflicts, which seem to us humans to be clear-cut struggles between good and evil when we’re in the middle of them, are often a product of blurred moral vision on both sides.”

Wright sees one possible escape hatch in what he calls “cognitive empathy,” the ability to understand how the world looks from the other side. He doesn’t mean sentimental empathy, or everyone hugging it out under a corporate banner. He means something more practical, and possibly harder: recognizing that your enemies may not see themselves as monsters.

“The good news is that in principle AI can help build cognitive empathy,” Wright says. “It can help us get better at understanding the perspectives of others. However, we’ll have to choose to make that happen, choose our AIs carefully and wisely, with that purpose in mind.”

He doesn’t expect the market to do this out of sweetness. “If anything it’ll do the opposite,” Wright says. “It’ll favor AIs that are optimized for engagement and so reinforce our comforting sense that we’re always in the right.”

This is why Wright calls the coming challenge “The God Test.” He’s not arguing that ChatGPT is God, or that tomorrow’s office printer will demand burnt offerings. His claim is stranger and larger. Artificial intelligence may be a turning point not merely in technology, but in the long evolutionary story of life on Earth. It may force humanity to decide what kind of species it is before something smarter begins answering that question for us.

Wright ends by returning to Edward Fredkin, the brilliant computer scientist he interviewed decades earlier. At one point, Wright recalls shouting a question over the engine of Fredkin’s seaplane. “What is the meaning of life?”

Fredkin’s answer was that humanity’s mission was to create artificial intelligence, the next step in evolution.

Back then, the answer could sound grandiose, eccentric and maybe even a little comic, the sort of thing a very smart man says in a very loud aircraft. Now Wright is no longer so sure it was merely strange. If creating AI was the mission, surviving it may be the test.

NEW YORK POST
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Sanctuary Insanity

Blue-state governors are doing everything they can to keep the Biden immigration crime wave alive — and will keep it up until their voters make them stop.

The latest atrocity: Virginia Gov. Abigail Spanberger failed to intervene to prevent the release of Jose Hernandez, an illegal from El Salvador arrested in March for molesting and abusing a 5-year-old girl, then remanded on a measly $5,000 bond.

Monsters that sick never stop at one victim; such low bail almost ensures Hernandez will vanish once he hits the streets, free to rape more children.

That's how it goes in sanctuary jurisdictions: The safety of law-abiding folks comes last, the "rights" (privileges!) of illegal migrants come first.

Spanberger insists hers is not a sanctuary state, but her policies are explicitly meant to protect illegals. She ended Virginia's 287(g) agreements, which ease co-operation of local law enforcement with ICE; she's refused to veto bills to prohibit ICE from making arrests at courthouses; she's pushed into law a ban on ICE agents masking up — a move that lets lefty fanatics target them and their families.

And she claims to be a moderate.

So too does New York's own Gov. Hochul — who recently pushed through what may be the most radical anti-enforcement law in the country, barring even *informal* co-operation between local cops and ICE and banning ICE agents from wearing masks and from entering public parks.

Gov. Gavin Newsom's California issues commercial driver licenses to untrained and often non-English speaking illegals, who then cause horrific death and destruction by smashing trucks into passenger cars — as Biden-released Manvir Singh did in late May, the fourth illegal-immigrant truck driver with the last name "Singh" accused in a fatal crash since last year.

Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker's allergy to locking up illegal criminals left Jose Medina-Medina free to murder New York-born college student Sheridan Gorman in Chicago in March: The Venezuelan illegal waved in under Biden got busted for shoplifting but let loose (lest ICE deport him) thanks to "sanctuary" protections.

It's all part of Trump Derangement Syndrome: The prez wants illegal migrants deported, so Democrats strive to keep them here; he's especially eager to expel those who commit new crimes, so Dems create extra protections for them — even though the public overwhelmingly wants them gone.

Anger at open borders was key to President Trump's re-election in 2024, and this new madness will surely bring its own voter backlash, at least in purplish states like Virginia.

Republicans in Congress should be courting that blowback now, with floor votes on Delilah's Law — to bar states from issuing commercial driver's licenses to illegal immigrants — in the runup to the November elections.

But drastic action, such as Homeland Security chief Markwayne Mullin's threat to cripple sanctuary-city airports, will only invite backlash in the opposite direction, just as did his predecessor Kirsti Noem's Minneapolis misadventure.

Blue-state immigration insanity is taking lives all across the country, but brute federal force won't work: It's going to require the slow slog of political persuasion.

Mass Medicaid Corruption

With the feds joining the parade calling out fraud in Gov. Hochul's rancid home-care-aide "reform," maybe the fundamental corruption of New York's Medicaid programs will start to unravel.

The Justice Department's Civil Division last week filed suit over the 2024 scheme to consolidate payrolls for nearly 240,000 home care aides covered by the $11 billion Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program, Medicaid coverage for aides to help out elderly or disabled folks around the house, paying roughly $20 an hour. New York lawmakers loosened the rules in 2015 so friends or relatives could get paid to do the work — whereupon costs rose by the billions. The number of "middlemen" handling CDPAP payrolls shot up from seven to 700 — as scams skyrocketed.

Then monster health-worker union 1199 SEIU got Hochul to push a reform that would supposedly rein in costs. No, not tightening the rules that started the cost explosion, but hiring a single company to handle *all* the payroll work.

That "fix" looks like a *giant* fraud. The feds finger Health Commissioner James McDonald and Medicaid Director Amir Bassiri as rigging the bidding to award the payroll contract to Public Partnership LLC — and the move definitely reeks.

Multiple investigations have already proved that PPL was consulting with top state officials long before the official bidding opened; the company's name even appeared in an early draft of the "reform" law. Other evidence suggests 1199 was in on the rigging, too. Meanwhile, anti-fraud enforcement has sunk under Attorney General Letitia James, with investigations dropping 45% since she took office and fraud recoveries falling 80%.

New York's Democratic establishment erupts in fury whenever Washington looks to rein in Medicaid, but what they're really guarding is the corruption that feeds their own careers in politics.

The New York Post is published by N.Y.P. Holdings Inc.
1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036

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How Mamdani gets it wrong on legal issues and Israel

Thousands march at last month's Israel Day Parade, which anti-Israel Mayor Mamdani did not attend.

NATASHA HAUSDORFF

INTERNATIONAL law is a major casualty of the last few years of reporting from the Middle East. The abuse, inversion, misrepresentation and weaponization of international legal terms and concepts has been a cornerstone of the storm of anti-Zionist propaganda engulfing much of the media coverage from the region.

This increasing trend undermines real international law and threatens the United States and the wider Free World, as these false representations of international law are increasingly deployed against Western interests more broadly.

One of the most prominent spreaders of this misinformation has been the mayor of New York. From alleging that synagogues were promoting activities "in violation of international law," to threatening to arrest the prime minister of Israel, to arguing that the US is "subsidizing a genocide," Zohran Mamdani is a frequent offender and a key driver of this worrying phenomenon.

The impact on New York's Jewish community has been palpable. But the broader effect of these increasingly widespread misconceptions of international law should not be underestimated. These buzzwords are intended to stymie debate, project a false narrative and ultimately target the West. It is high time that Mamdani was called out on his falsehoods.

The mayor has repeatedly described Israel as an "occupying" power, engaged in an "unlawful occupation" and supported claims that Israeli settlements are "illegal under international law." All of these claims misapply fundamental principles of international law to the territory of the State of Israel, the borders of which arise from the universally applied customary rule of Uti Possidetis Juris, "as you possess under the law."

This rule has applied to the formation of the borders of emerging states in order to maintain stability and certainty, in a decolonization context, across South America, Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Eastern Europe. It is a default rule which provides that the existing administrative lines on the map are maintained and become the borders of the new states at the moment that they emerge.

As the only state to emerge out of the territory of the British Mandate for Palestine, after 75% of the Mandate was granted by the British to the Arabs to form what became the Kingdom of Jordan, and in the absence of any contrary agreement on borders, the applicable rules of international law are clear: in 1948 Israel took on the preexisting administrative lines of the Mandate on that date as its international borders. The customary rule's application to Israel is epitomical. There has yet to be any sensibly argued justification for making an exception with respect to Israel.

There has been no subsequent agreement to change those borders. So, in 1967, when Israel recovered Gaza and Judea & Samaria/the West Bank from Egyptian and Jordanian occupation respectively, it could not have been an occupier. No sovereign can occupy its own sovereign territory; Israel is no exception.

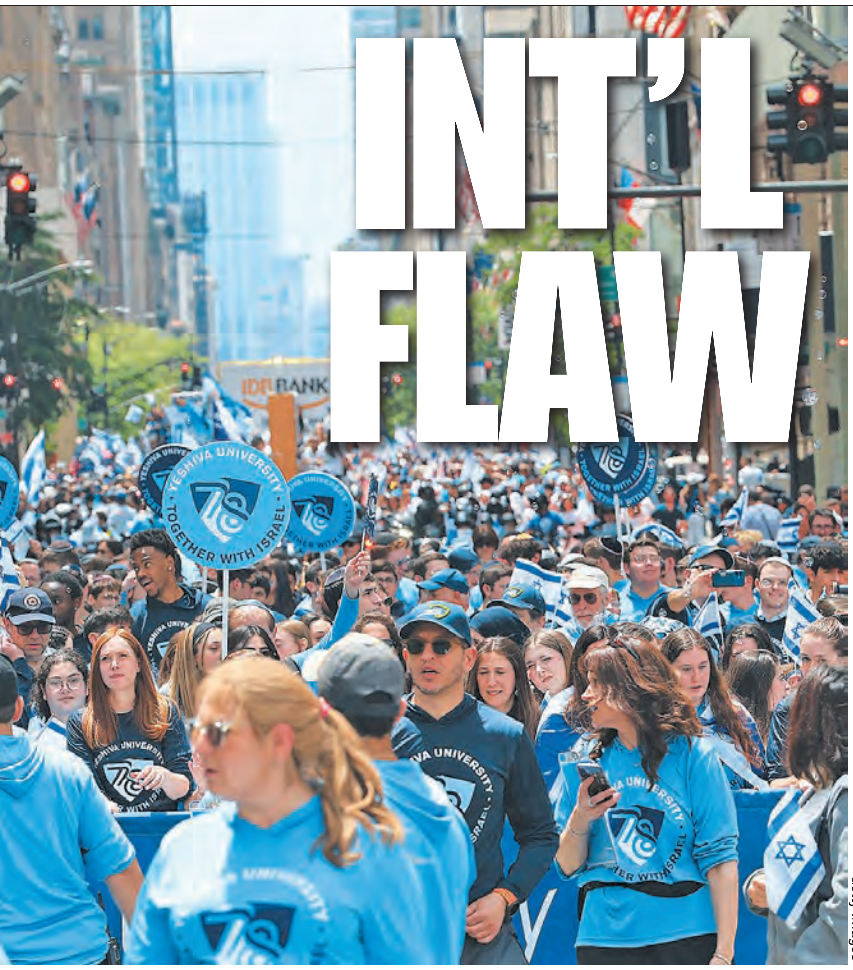
The falsehoods propagated by the mayor and others as to the status of the territory, with false buzzwords of "occupation" and "illegality," have become pervasive. But that does not make them true. Equally offensive is the deployment of this false analysis in relation to the Israeli communities that exist in Judea & Samaria, some having reestablished themselves after being ethnically cleansed from that territory by Jordan in 1948-49.

The suggestion that Israeli settlements are "illegal" is not founded in real international law, but is an apparently palatable way of saying "Jews shouldn't live in certain areas just because they are Jews." It further underpins the grotesque calls for the modern-day ethnic cleansing of Jews from these areas.

The mayor's disgraceful use of the term "apartheid" in relation to Israel ignores the real apartheid in the region: there are no Jews in Palestinian-controlled territory. The territories that Israel relinquished in exchange for assurances of peace, in Areas A and B of the West Bank, subject to international agreement and guarantees, and in Gaza unilaterally under unrelenting international pressure, are now Jew-Free. That is the true apartheid.

As with all the abuses of legal terms and false accusations against Israel, we see the phenomenon of projection, where Israeli Jews are accused of the very crimes that have been committed against them. A case in point is the false allegation of genocide, the "crime of crimes." Another falsehood frequently

INT'L FLAW



Getty Images

deployed by the mayor. The pernicious nature of this blood libel is evident from the Jewish experience of genocide: the Holocaust, which gave rise to the term, and the experience of victims of Oct. 7 , targeted for rape, torture and slaughter, simply because they were Jews. The intention with which Palestinian terrorists pursued Jews in order to subject them to this barbarism is the very definition of genocide.

The false projection of this term and inversion of the allegation is no accident. It is calculated in order to inflict yet further harm on the Jewish people. Further to that, the mayor's invocation of this false claim renders the term "genocide" meaningless and dramatically degrades the credibility of the international legal framework and undermines the values it was designed to uphold.

Then there are the mayor's threats against the political leadership of a key ally of the US. Mamdani's vow to arrest Benjamin Netanyahu in New York is certainly dangerous rhetoric, but it is also legally illiterate. Quite apart from this baseless threat being contrary to US federal law, it threatens foundational pillars of customary international law designed to uphold state sovereignty and facilitate international relations.

The mayor's own abuse of international law builds upon the abuses already on display at the International Criminal Court (the ICC) itself.

In pursuing its anti-Israel agenda and issuing arrest warrants against Israel's prime minister and its former defense minister, the ICC has acted contrary to its own jurisdiction, its own rules, and on the basis of demonstrably false allegations.

The canard of deliberate starvation is easily refuted by the publicly available information on the COGAT website, which documented throughout the war in Gaza the volume of aid which was facilitated into the Gaza Strip by the Israeli army. The pursuit of charges by the ICC despite the clear evidence to the contrary is demonstrative of the political agenda now pursued by the court. The United States has been the sole nation to hold the ICC to account, despite not even being a member of the institution.

Mamdani's position is hardly surprising, given his hardcore anti-Israel activism and hostility to the New York Jewish community. But his false invocation of international law should be challenged. His attempts to mask his hostility to Israel and the Jews by falsely deploying international legal concepts and phraseology should be called out.

Ultimately, the mayor is simply peddling modern blood libels against the Jewish state through misuse of these legal terms that inverts their meaning. The impact on Jews is obvious. The impact on international law may be less obvious, but is no less dangerous.

What starts with the Jews rarely ends with the Jews. Anyone who prizes the freedoms of the United States — life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness — and enjoys the privileges of life in the Free World, should recognize the urgent need to challenge the weaponization of international law. Time is not on our side.

Natasha Hausdorff is a London-based international lawyer and the founder and president of The Center for International Rule of Law.

LETTERS

Rex merits death

The sad part about Gilgo Beach killer Rex Heuermann getting sentenced to life in jail with no parole is that there is no death penalty and taxpayers will have to pay for his stay in prison ("Kin bare rage & anguish at fiend," June 18).

Thomas Sarc, Central Islip

A mom's hard duty

It must have been terribly uncomfortable for the mother of Tycen Proper to call the police on her son for his plot to attack the UFC Freedom 250 event ("UFC 'terror plot' teen KO'd online," June 18).

Thank goodness she did. She should be praised for putting our great country ahead of family and helping to prevent a deadly attack on the White House. I hope one day her son will thank her for her courage and sense of duty.

JoAnn Frank, Clearwater, Fla.

Reparations paid

The Post is correct to point out that some 50,000 New Yorkers died in the Civil War fighting for the Union and the end of slavery ("A New Turn in NY's Reparations Farce," Editorial, June 18).

In addition, several times that number were wounded, with thousands spending their remaining years as amputees or otherwise disabled at a time when there was no Veterans Administration to assist them, leaving them dependent on friends, family and charities.

New York state contributed more soldiers and suffered more casualties than any other state on either side in the Civil War. The Empire State has paid for any slavery "reparations" in blood, treasure and pain.

Dennis Middlebrooks, Brooklyn

Kids, off the apps

The United Kingdom is following Australia's example and restricting access to social media apps for children under 16 ("Apps not kid stuff," June 16)

It will find, however, that children will often be able to circumvent their restrictions. It's a common faulty approach of trying to treat the symptoms rather than the illness. A better idea might be to get them a soccer ball, watch a few games with them and go to the local park and join others.

The World Cup is on for a few weeks and might give us that opportunity to get them out of the basement, physical or metaphorical.

Dennis Fitzgerald, Melbourne, Australia

End the cruelty

The debate over banning horse-drawn carriages in New York City has stretched on for years, with bills endlessly stalled and buried. Meanwhile, powerful unions maintain their grip on City Hall, and meaningful action keeps getting delayed ("Horse horror," June 18)

If this is truly as urgent as the City Council claims it to be, the first step must be an emergency injunction halting carriage operations while investigations and public hearings proceed.

In the last month alone, another horse collapsed and died, and a young man was thrown from a carriage and killed. Philadelphia just voted to ban horse-drawn carriages. New York should do the same.

Janet White, Philadelphia, Pa.

ID the funders

These paid anti-ICE agitators at Delaney Hall and the people paying them should be looked into very carefully ("Organized anarchy," June 14).

They're trying to destabilize our country and those who are funding this should be brought into the light. We need to know why they are doing this. What do they have to accomplish or benefit from this?

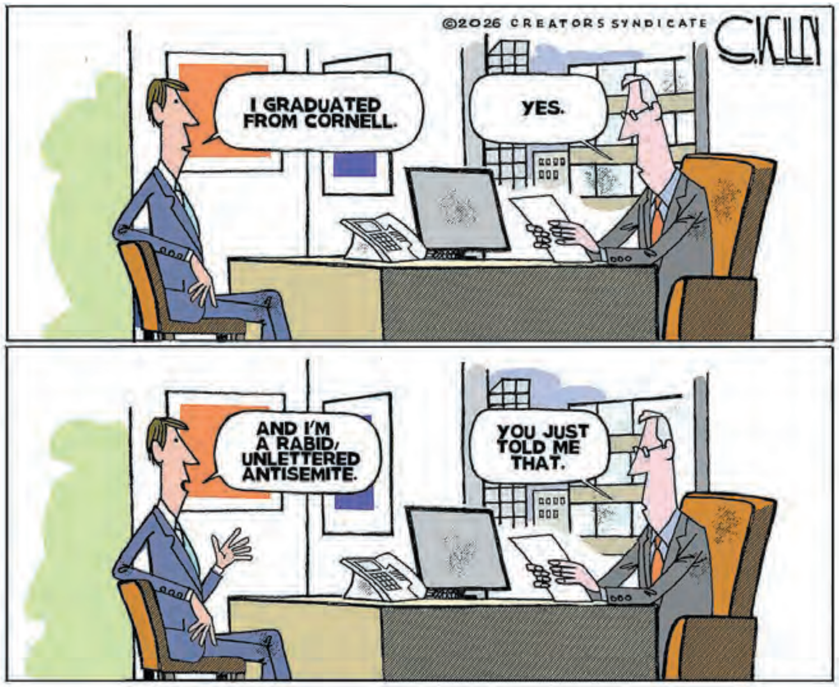
Steve Preziosa Sr., Deptford, NJ

Post your comments on stories at **www.nypost.com**

E-mail letters@nypost.com,

or write to:
The Editor, The New York Post, 1211 Avenue of the Americas, NY 10036.

Include name, address and daytime phone number. No unverifiable letter will be published. The Post reserves the right to edit all letters.


©2026 CREATORS SYNDICATE
I GRADUATED FROM CORNELL.
YES.
AND I'M A RABID, UNLETTERED ANTISEMITE.
YOU JUST TOLD ME THAT.

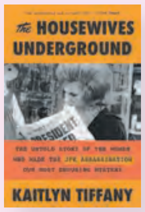
REQUIRED READING

By Hailey Eber

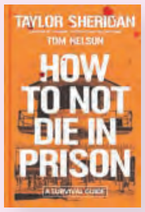
The Sixth Nik
Daniel Kraus (S&S/Saga Press)
Kraus, who won a Pulitzer last month with his WW1 novel "Angel Down," offers up a lively sci-fi adventure. A young girl with a technologically enhanced brain goes on a mission to track down a rogue planet. She shares the spaceship with a motley cast of characters, including a medic with a peyote addiction, a pretty engineer marred by plastic surgery and a captain who is out to get her.

Songs of the Dead: The Strata Wars
Brandon Sanderson and Peter Orullian (S&S/Saga Press)
This is the first book in a new fantasy series centered around a London rock musician, Jack Solomon, who is murdered. He reawakens to find himself in a strange version of the English capital, where different periods in history collide and some beings have potent magical powers.

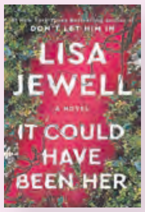
Someone Else's Husband: A Novel
Kimberly McCreight (Knopf)
A rich Upper East Side wife's life falls apart after her husband has an affair while trekking Mount Kilimanjaro — and then the other woman is found murdered. The thriller has already been acquired by Lionsgate Television to be adapted into a TV series.



The Housewives Underground: The Untold Story of the Women Who Made the JFK Assassination Our Most Enduring Mystery
Kaitlyn Tiffany (Crown)
World Health Organization analyst Sylvia Meagher spent the later decades of her life delving into the Kennedy assassination and working to discredit the Warren report, believing Americans deserved to know more about what happened in Dallas. Tiffany zeroes in on her and a handful of other gals who came together to challenge the FBI's narrative and look for the truth.

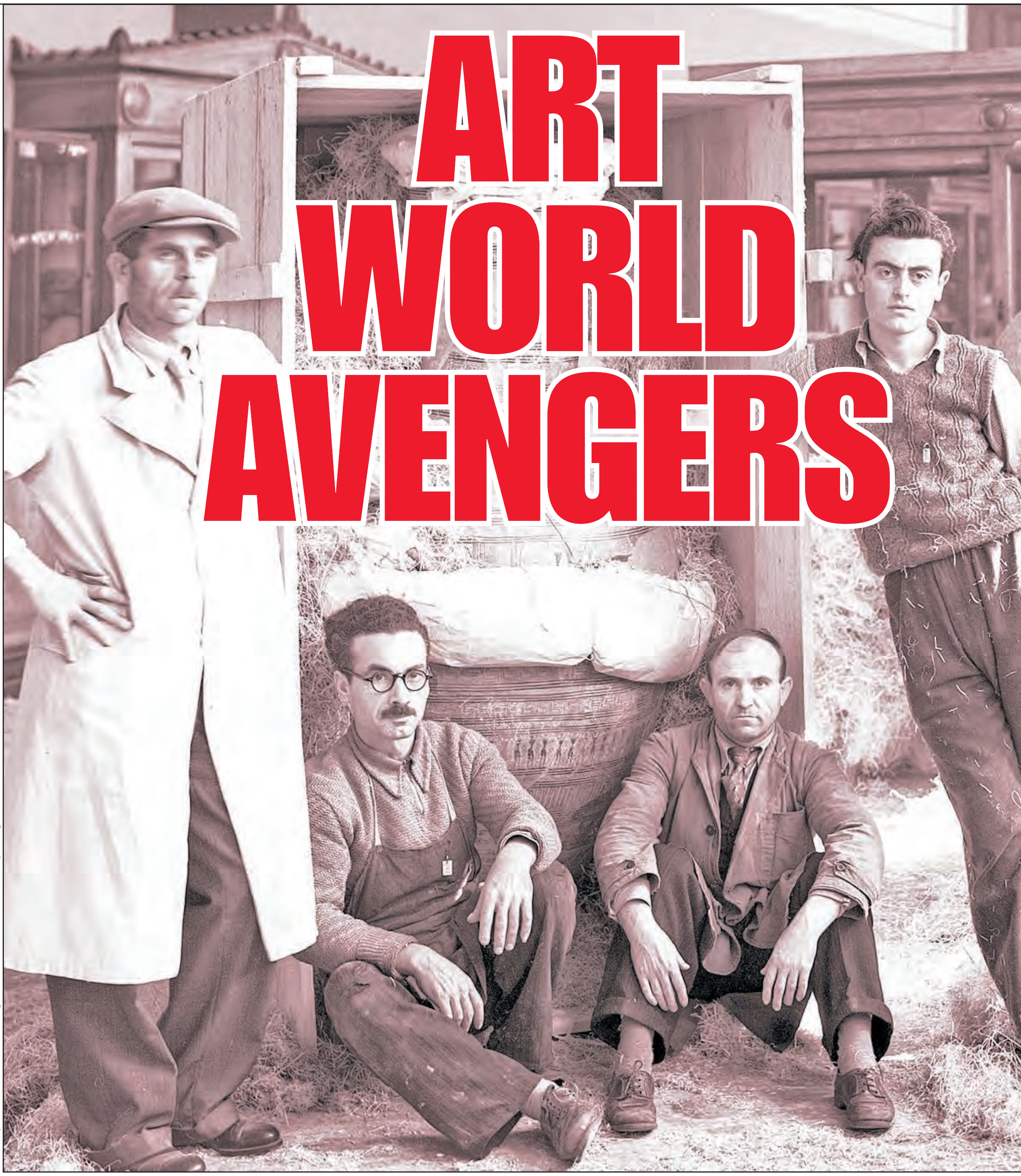


How to Not Die in Prison: A Survival Guide
Taylor Sheridan and Tom Nelson (Simon & Schuster)
Sheridan, the co-creator of "Yellowstone," teamed up with ex-con Nelson for this cheeky-yet-practical tome that offers advice on everything from making a shiv to getting through solitary confinement.



It Could Have Been Her
Lisa Jewell (Atria Books)
The bestselling British author's latest begins in the English countryside. Out walking her dogs, Jane Trevally comes upon a terrier that was being cared for by a teen girl who's gone missing. Jane offers to take the dog to its registered owners in London, but when she arrives at the address, it's a creepy house from her past. A strange man answers the door and a spooky woman lurks in the window.

ART WORLD AVENGERS



Courtesy of National Archaeological Museum Archives; Getty Images, The LIFE Picture Collection/Shutterstock

By CAROLINE HOWE

SHORTLY after the occupying Nazi army goose-stepped into Greece in the spring of 1941, officers of the Wehrmacht entered Athens' neoclassical National Archaeological Museum. Their goal: to take possession of a treasure of antiquities — a statue of Zeus, the Mask of Agamemnon and thousands of other pieces — and return all to the fatherland as their leader had ordered.

Along with his "Final Solution" for the Jews — some 70,000 would be exterminated in Greece alone — and his desire to eventually rule the world, Adolph Hitler bizarrely believed that ancient Greece was founded by Aryans. Thus he had instructed his Nazi classicists to pull from the earth what he thought would be Germanic finds, finally proving the connection with ancient Greece.

But they had no success, because there were no such finds. They came away empty-handed, as did the shocked Nazi officers who had entered the museum in Athens with high expectations. Instead, all of the treasures were gone — many buried underground as insurance against the Nazi occupation.

As author Stephan Talty writes in his new book, "The American School of Spies: The Archaeologists Who Fought the Nazis and Saved the Treasures of Ancient Greece" (Dutton), "The relics were all saved."

Talty's in-depth account reads like a real-life Indiana Jones story, focusing on the efforts of classicists and archaeologists to save the ancient Greek artifacts from Hitler.

For years, the Nazis claimed "Aryans were the creators of the world's first great civilization . . . Hitler and his lieutenants were fixated, in varying degrees, on ancient Greece and its artifacts," according to the author.

How a young group of American spies saved Greece's precious artifacts

Workers at Greece's National Archaeological Museum buried many treasures to hide them from the Nazis, while American archeologist Rodney S. Young (bottom) led a spy team known as the "Greek Desk."

HITLER was especially "besotted" by a "crouched, naked male athlete [known as] the Discobolus," or discus thrower, Talty writes.

The statue was celebrated in "Olympia," filmmaker Leni Riefenstahl's propagandist documentary about the 1936 Olympics.

To do battle against the Nazi occupation of Greece, as well as Hitler's agenda to capture the antiquities, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt assigned Army General William "Wild Bill" Donovan, head of America's Office of Strategic Services (OSS) — the precursor to the CIA — to create a clandestine intelligence team.

Donovan made his way to Greece and was "impressed" by the citizens' "high morale," writes the author. On the general's return home, he decided that a "classic spy network" be formed because, controversially, he believed that the "Allies couldn't rely on conventional forces alone to defeat the Germans."

The plan was to establish small guerrilla units, with manpower coming from Greek immigrant communities in the US, of "spies and the commandos" to stop the Nazis. Donovan hit up Harvard and Yale grads in his recruitment for "secret agents." He also needed someone very tuned-in and risk-taking to run the clandestine operation — essentially, a "spymaster," reveals Talty.

DONOVAN chose Rodney Young, a handsome 33-year-old American archeologist with no military experience, but who had worked on digs in Greece, to pull the team together and form what became known in Washington as the "Greek Desk."

Young's real job: to turn the epigraphers, scholars, classicists and archaeologists into spies.

A rich kid with impressive credentials, Young is described by Talty as "an East Coast blue blood." His mother was a member of the Ballantine family, Scottish rivals to American beer dynasties like Pabst. The future spymaster had grown up in a Greek Revival mansion in Newark, NJ, and a country home in Bernardsville. He learned Greek at the exclusive St. Paul's School in New Hampshire and studied at Princeton like his forebears.

He was also known as a party guy, and was once described as the "Cary Grant-ish darling of New York debutante balls," writes Talty.

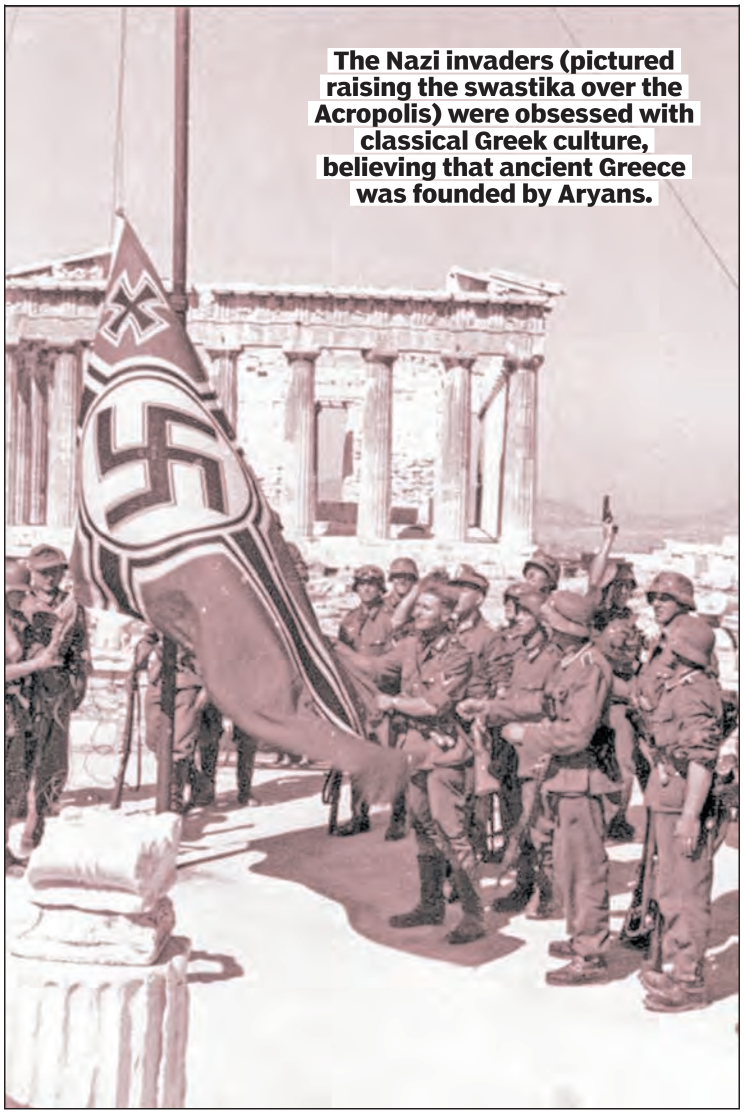
Young eventually settled in Athens at the famed American School of Classical Studies, which became his home base. But not long after the Nazi occupation, he was struck by shrapnel from an explosion, and his intestines and stomach wall were penetrated.

According to the author, an Athens newspaper reported that "new American blood is now added to that shed in 1821 for Greek independence."

Recovering from his injuries, Young continued running the Greek Desk and training his operatives — including Dorothy Hannah Cox, a 50-year-old "spirited, tough" excavation architect and expert in ancient coins.

The OSS offered her a role as a secret agent, with the idea that she would use her job working for Greek War Relief as a cover.

As Talty writes, "Using archaeology as a cover for espionage was controversial." Scholar-secret agents like Cox and Young were once accused of "prostituting science," as one of their peers put it.



The Nazi invaders (pictured raising the swastika over the Acropolis) were obsessed with classical Greek culture, believing that ancient Greece was founded by Aryans.

In July 1942, the recruits, mostly Greek-Americans, began four weeks of basic training in spy craft: from how to create a cover identity to how to fatally knife a Nazi sentry, along with learning codes and cryptography.

As the author observes, "America had little experience in foreign espionage, and General Donovan and his lieutenants in many ways were making it up as they went along."

Young was given the code name Pigeon; Dorothy Cox was Thrush. Their secret training camp, a site known as the "Farm," was a former horse estate in Virginia, 20 miles outside of Washington.

THE two agents had grown up in comfortable homes.

Now they were told by their OSS superior to forget all that and "wage war in the old, savage way," writes Talty.

Along with spy school, Donovan established a commando unit made up of the American-born sons of immigrants who, as the author notes, were "presumably ready and willing to kill the occupiers of their ancestral homelands."

In January 1943, FDR signed an executive order creating an infantry battalion made up of second-generation young American men "who would fight in the places their parents had left," writes Talty. While 1,200 "cocky and wild" recruits were shipped to Camp Carson in Colorado to be trained, that number was reduced to 212 who headed to Greece to fight the good fight.

"They were returning to liberate their parents' homeland," the author writes.

Fast forward to June 4, 1946, and a ceremony in one of the grand halls of the National Archaeological Museum in Athens. With a gathering of curators and Athenians present, workers dug up buried antiquities kept hidden from the Nazis throughout the war.

"It would take another two years for the museum to be ready for opening. And in 2013," writes Talty, "the Greek Ministry of Culture announced the return of more than 10,000 relics, all taken by the Nazis."

Young had escaped death by Nazi marauders but, in 1974, was killed in an auto accident.

"For years afterward," writes Talty, "visitors to the [University of Pennsylvania's] archaeology department would find his office 'sealed like a shrine.' He was the last of a particular breed."

POSTSCRIPT Books

BURN AFTER READING

A new book asserts that sun protection has gone too far. We need to soak up some rays — and their health benefits

by CAROLINE HOWE

LIVING in Vermont, science writer Rowan Jacobsen noticed the effects the seasons had on him. Summers were gorgeous, but the grey winters were brutal and left him lagging.

"I felt as if my cells didn't work," he writes in his new book, "In Defense of Sunlight: The Surprising Science of Sun Exposure" (Scribner).

But, during sunnier times, when he got some early morning rays, he writes, "It was as if some nutrient was pouring from the sky.

While the sun and its UV rays have been vilified in recent decades, Jacobsen offers up a counter narrative.

"The science consistently showed that people who received ample amounts of sun exposure lived longer, healthier lives than people who didn't," he writes.

He said his "wake-up call" came after reading a "paradigm-shifting" 2018 report in The Journal of Cell Science.

Chinese neurology researchers found that those who had sun exposure were healthier and lived longer, even when they suffered from diabetes or heart attacks.

"Like most people, I'd had it drilled into me . . . that the sun was bad news, the primary cause of skin cancer" and that the only acceptable sunlight on unprotected skin was "zero," Jacobsen writes.

He also cites a 2014 study, from a team of dermatologists at Harvard Medical School, that showed that the sun had profound mood-boosting powers.

It found that when exposed to the sun, skin cells produce a large molecule called proopiomelanocortin (POMC) that splits into three compounds.

One compound is responsible for triggering melanin, the pigment that protects from burning and tans skin. The second compound produces cortisol, which makes cells fire faster, making you feel more alert, more focused and able to burn more energy. The third compound infuses the brain with natural opioids — producing a "state of bliss similar to the effects of opium or morphine," writes Jacobsen.

Given such benefits, he believes, "You should make sure to get at least a few minutes per day of sun exposure," he said. "Those with darker skin should get a bit more, as should those living in darker places, or darker times of the year."

But we have been advised to avoid the sun and its potential benefits. The suncare business is booming, worth an estimated $15 billion, largely thanks to heavily promoting protection against sunburn and possibly skin cancer. Jacobsen claims they might not be as effective as we've been led to believe.

"The European Journal of Dermatology published a meta-analysis of the 29 studies of sunscreen use and skin cancer that had been done since the 1970s," he writes. "All of them showed a higher risk of skin cancer among the sunscreen users."

In 1979, intense lobbying by the industry convinced the Food and Drug Administration to allow cosmetics companies to claim that the use of sunscreen might help reduce the risk of skin cancer. Sales skyrocketed, but so have skin cancer rates.

Jacobsen believes that safe exposure to the sun's rays can actually lower blood pressure and build a healthier immune system. Meanwhile, he writes that some sunscreen products contain a high concentration of potentially harmful chemicals.

"In 2008, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) published a study showing that 97% of Americans were contaminated with oxybenzone, the most common and concerning of the sunscreen chemicals. It turns out oxybenzone and other related chemical filters penetrate the skin," he writes.

He asserts that many suncare product contain phthalates and PFAS, "two extremely worrisome classes of chemicals that easily migrate into the body." Phthalates have been connected to neurological disorders, reproductive abnormalities and metabolic dysfunction.

Some four decades ago, the FDA introduced the Sun Protection Factor (SPF) system, which measures how much a sunscreen product can protect skin from ultraviolet rays — the sun's burning rays. Sales of skin care products using the system soared.

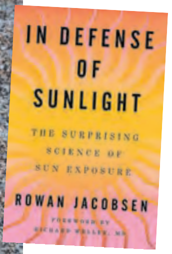
Jacobsen asserts that "SPF transformed a [sunscreen] that had all the gravitas of surfboard wax into an anchor of wellness with endless options in strength, formulation and price."

Still, he doesn't advise ditching sunscreen altogether, but advocates wearing it only when needed and avoiding anything higher than 30 SPF.

Use common sense and don't get burned, he advised, but also don't stay inside all the time or constantly cover up. He said, "Get sun. Not too much. Go outside."

Rowan Jacobsen argues that the benefits of sunlight outweigh the risks — but, he says, don't get burned.

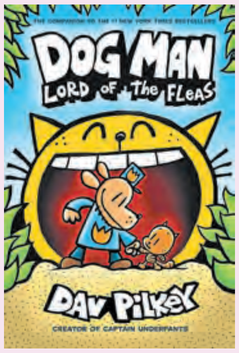
Adobe Stock



BUZZ: Book Marks

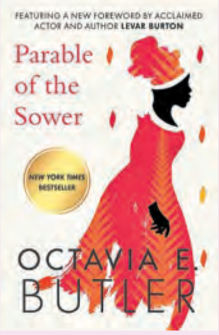
The Post regularly asks local libraries and bookstores about their top titles. This week, Rosemary Kiladitis, manager at Queens Public Library's Corona branch, shares their most popular books at the moment.

Dog Man: Lord of the Fleas
Dav Pilkey
(Graphix)



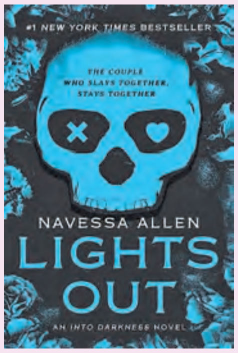
"Who can stop the force that is Dog Man?" Kiladitis told The Post. "Our kids can't get enough of the half-dog, half-man police super cop or his Supa Buddies, who take on the FLEAS (Fuzzy Little Evil Animal Squad) and a giant robot dinosaur in this installment of the uber-popular graphic novel series."

Parable of the Sower
Octavia Butler
(Grand Central Publishing)


FEATURING A NEW FOREWORD BY ACCLAIMED ACTOR AND AUTHOR LEVAR BURTON
Parable of the Sower
NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER
OCTAVIA E. BUTLER

"Readers return to Octavia Butler's work because her recurring themes of social and environmental upheaval are still relevant," Kiladitis said. "'Parable of the Sower' follows teen Lauren Olamina, whose life is upended in 2020s-era America. Her hyperempathy opens her up to the intense emotion of others and gives her a deep compassion for others."

Lights Out: An Into Darkness Novel
Navessa Allen


#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER
THE COUPLE WHO SLAYS TOGETHER, STAYS TOGETHER
NAVESSA ALLEN
LIGHTS OUT
AN INTO DARKNESS NOVEL

"This dark romance hit cannot stay on our shelves," Kiladitis said. "A trauma nurse obsesses over a social media star. His idea of 'protecting' her is a little twisted, but there is plenty of dark humor to break the tension. If your fantasy man is masked, muscular and handy with technology, give this one a whirl."

PLAY MORE GAMES!
NYPOST.COM/GAMES

PLAY MORE

Sunday Break

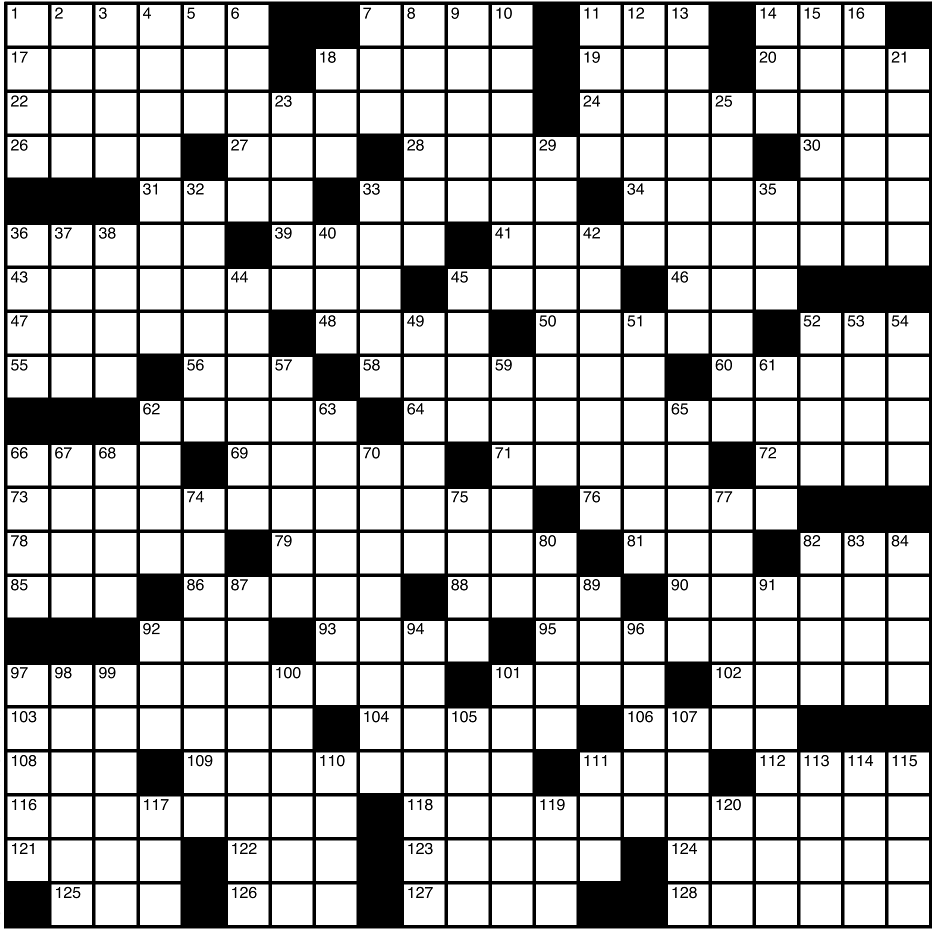
“M&M’S” By Jeffrey Diton & Katie Hale

Across

1 Record player?
7 __ accompli
11 Swimwear top
14 Secrecy doc
17 Wrap
18 British unit of mass
19 Singer Rawls
20 Like a good handshake
22 The Duchess of Sussex
24 Dines after 10, say
26 Go to press?
27 B’way passes
28 Stops talking about
30 Comedy routine
31 Gradually stop nursing
33 Fix, as a pool cue
34 Shop online, say
36 Bolt down the track?
39 Numbered work
41 Rebecca Pearson player on “This Is Us”
43 Comedian whose podcast’s final episode featured Barack Obama
45 Griffith Observatory style
46 Review that might go viral
47 Strike
48 Typesetting unit
50 Lucy’s sitcom chum
52 “Fire away”
55 __-mo
56 Valvoline rival
58 Establishment with teas and tabbies
60 Sunset dirección
62 Fan sound
64 Anthropologist who theorized that children learn by watching adults
66 __ latte
69 Pee Wee of baseball
71 Quintet that occasionally becomes a sextet
72 Milky Way maker
73 Oscar winner who gave her acceptance speech in ASL
76 Eleanor in a Beatles hit
78 “You know the __”
79 Hair band
81 Pic of Pinocchio
82 One of Tarzan’s adopted family
85 Irish actor Stephen
86 Academy student
88 James of “Misery”
90 Malia and Sasha, to Craig Robinson
92 __ phrik: Thai chili sauce
93 Casual get-together
95 Austin Powers portrayer
97 Actress who won a Tony and an Emmy for playing Peter Pan
101 Dog biscuit shape
102 Green pasta sauce
103 Detail, as a bill
104 South Asian pancakes
106 Not more
108 Reply to a meme, perhaps
109 “I’ll just leave a message”
111 “I’m __ yours!”
112 “My bad!”
116 87-Down predator
118 Hall of Famer who holds the record for most World Series home runs
121 32-country org.
122 Apple platform
123 With 89-Down, “Delta of Venus” writer
124 Polynesian language
125 Relay part
126 TV journalist Cabrera
127 Geek (out)
128 Famous last words?

Down

1 Prefix with -tasse
2 Cabinet dept. with a sun on its seal
3 Therefore
4 Film assassin played by Keanu Reeves
5 Legal org.
6 Busybody
7 Not against
8 Spots for some bracelets
9 Cove
10 Start of a round
11 Wasn’t colorfast
12 Laughed loudly
13 Option in some password managers
14 Org. with Cowboys and Chiefs
15 Devil, in Spanish
16 More stylized
18 Burden
21 British unit of length
23 Key word?
25 Musical based on “Monty Python and the Holy Grail”
29 Modernistic
32 Tangle up
33 Like an ancient alphabet
35 Charged particle
36 Strike callers
37 Cruise (by)
38 Not pizzicato
40 Dad
42 “The injustice!”
44 Wardrobe
45 Mining target
49 Bedouin mounts
51 Like Superman
52 Far from land
53 Take the lead
54 Shoe brand founded by U.S. Rubber
57 Program for some psych majors
59 Skulls
61 “The Pitt” award
62 Last words, often
63 Most genuine
65 University of Oregon city
66 Nav. officer
67 Fabulous loser?
68 Diva’s big moment
70 Driver’s licenses, e.g.
74 Chevy coupe with a cargo bed
75 Hankering
77 Goodyear fleet
80 Stealthy patterns, for short
82 Fab
83 Saucy
84 Canadian gas brand
87 Area with the world’s largest rainforest
89 See 123-Across
91 “Class, pay attention!”
92 MLB team in blue and orange
94 Olaf, for one
96 __ green
97 La Scala locale
98 Like music that’s hard to sing along to
99 Connect
100 Continue enjoying a book
101 Train lounge
105 Rive Gauche waters
107 Horror film loc.
110 Artemis II org.
111 Two-time loser to DDE
113 Great Plains tribe
114 Think ahead
115 Email action
117 Gear tooth
119 Josh
120 Pleased sigh



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Post SU DOKU

You must put a number, from 1 to 9, in each empty box. Each number must appear once in each horizontal row, as well as in each vertical column and in each of the 3-by-3 grids.
Super Su Doku, inside, multiplies the challenge — and your enjoyment. For that one, put a number from 1 to 12 in each empty box, making sure each number appears once in each horizontal row, as well as in each vertical column and in each of the 3-by-4 grids. Tips and in-depth strategies at www.SudokuWiki.org. For more Su Doku puzzles, see tomorrow’s New York Post.

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Very Easy #7,316

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	8	3				2	1	
		1				4		7
9	1		5		3		2	
		2	9		1			
4	5		7				3	

Difficult #7,106

	8	2					3	
		5	9		6			
	7							2
8						9		
	6		7		2			
		3			5			8
5							1	
			4		7	5		
	3					2	4	

Challenging #560

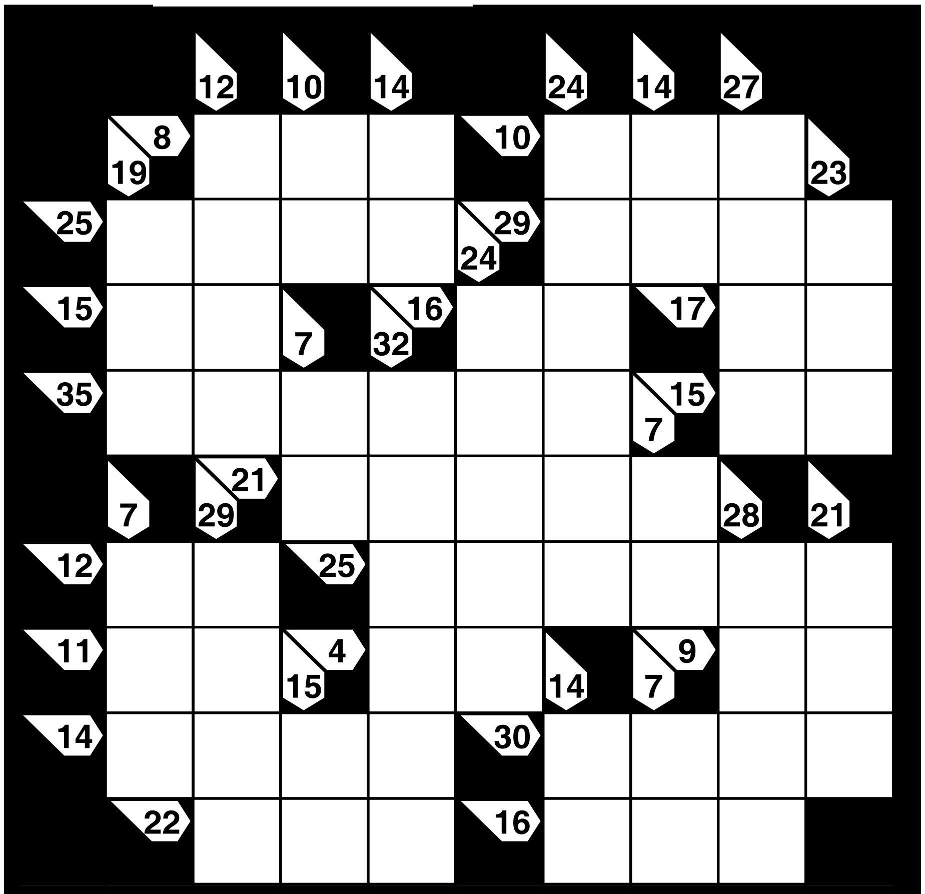
1	7		2					
	5	3		6		9		4
							3	
			9				1	
5			4		6			9
	6				8			
	3							
7		4		2		3	9	
					1		4	6

All Sunday puzzle answers on Page 56

All Sunday puzzle answers are on Page 56

Kakuro

Place 1 to 9 in each white cell. To choose the right number, you need to work from the clues in around the edge. The numbers below the diagonal lines are the sums of the solutions in the white cells immediately beneath. The numbers above the divide are the sums of the solutions immediately to the right. Rows and columns do NOT have to be unique.



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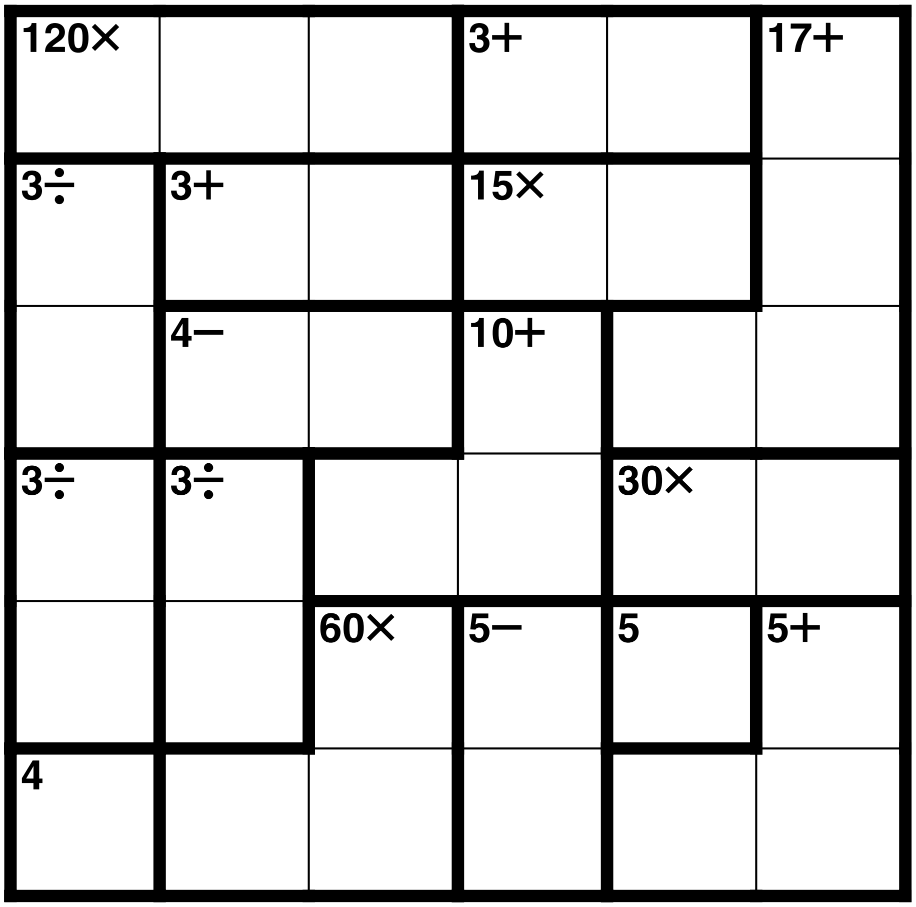
#560

KENKEN

Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating. The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners. Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.



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Chess

King of the board

By Andy Soltis

One of the first things novices learn is how to attack an enemy king.

But learning when to do it can be harder.

In this week's game, White could have enjoyed a slight middlegame advantage after 13 0-0.

Instead, he saw an opportunity to target the Black kingside. The reason is 12...0-0 made it vulnerable to a charging g-pawn.

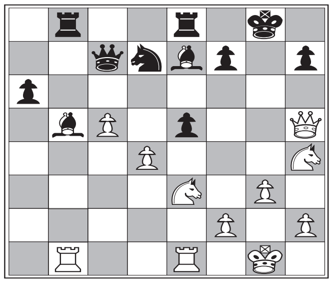
The success of White's plan became clearer after 17 g5!.

If 17...hxg5, White would have crashed the Black king protection, e.g. 18 Rxg5 Nf6 19 Rdg1 g6 20 Bxg6!.

Black resigned when he allowed 20 Nd5! and lost material (20...exd5? 21 Qxe7; 20...Qd7 21 Nf6+ or 20...Qe8 21 Nc7).

NIMZO-INDIAN DEFENSE
Bad Woerishofen 2026

	Sandipan Chanda	**E. Cziko**
1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	e6
3	Nc3	Bb4
4	e3	O-O
5	Bd2	c5
6	a3	Bxc3
7	Bxc3	Ne4
8	Ne2	d6
9	dxc5	Nxc3
10	Nxc3	dxc5
11	Qc2	Bd7
12	Bd3	h6
13	O-O-O!	Qe7
14	g4!	Bc6
15	Rhg1	Nd7
16	f4	Rfd8
17	g5!	h5
18	Be4	Bxe4
19	Qxe4	Nf8?
20	Nd5!	Resigns



White to play and win.
D. Pavlov - K. Sakaev
Moscow 2026

Last week: 1...Nd3! 2 gxf5 Ne2+! 3 Bxe2 Qxf2+ 4 Kh1 Qxe2.

Sunday Word Force

INTENTIONAL

From the word or phrase above, form at least 20 five-letter words, without using more than one form of the same word. For example, drink or drank, not both.

Bridge

Father's Day is celebratory at Unlucky Louie's house. Louie has sired nine children and, by extension, a half-dozen grandchildren.

"I love 'em all," Louie told me, "but they're always needing five dollars or ten dollars or sometimes more. I'm a father — if a father is somebody who has a bunch of pictures in his wallet where he used to keep his money."

Louie would have an easier time keeping his kids financed as well as fed if he held down his losses in the club's penny game. As today's South, Louie opened one diamond, West threw in a one-spade overcall, North offered a negative double and East jammed the auction with a jump to three spades. Louie's hand was worth five clubs, and North bid a slam even though Louie would be declarer.

West led the king of spades, and Louie took dummy's ace. He led a trump to his king and a trump back to dummy's jack. When East showed out, Louie lost a trump and the ace of hearts.

The winning line was difficult. Louie's correct play in trumps was to lead to the jack without taking the king (also winning if West had the singleton queen). If East has the singleton ten, Louie can pick up the trumps, but he needs three entries to his hand. At Trick Two, he must make a farsighted play, leading a heart from dummy.

Say East takes the ace and forces with a spade. Louie then leads a trump to the jack. He returns a club to his hand, lets the nine of trumps ride and takes the ace. He can come back to the king of hearts to draw West's queen of trumps and take the rest with high clubs.

South dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠ A 5 3
♡ Q 4 3 2
◇ A J 4
♣ 8 6 5

WEST
♠ K Q 10 9 4
♡ J 9 7
◇ Q 6 3 2
♣ 3

EAST
♠ J 8 7 2
♡ A 10 8 5
◇ 10
♣ 10 7 4 2

SOUTH
♠ 6
♡ K 6
◇ K 9 8 7 5
♣ A K Q J 9

South	West	North	East
1 ◇	1 ♠	Dbl	3 ♠
5 ♣	Pass	6 ◇	All Pass

Opening lead – ♠ K

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All Sunday puzzle answers are on Page 56

Boggle® BrainBusters!

INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

BOGGLE® POINT SCALE	YOUR BOGGLE® RATING
3 letters = 1 point	151+ = Champ
4 letters = 2 points	101-150 = Expert
5 letters = 3 points	61 - 100 = Pro
6 letters = 4 points	31 - 60 = Gamer
7 letters = 6 points	21 - 30 = Rookie
8 letters = 10 points	11 - 20 = Amateur
9+ letters = 15 points	0 - 10 = Try again

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Y	N	O	G	C
A	T	S	O	A
R	S	M	L	P
O	B	T	E	A
C	I	Y	X	N

6-21-26

Boggle® BrainBusters Bonus

We put special brain-busting words into the puzzle grid. Can you find them?

Find AT LEAST SEVEN WORDS RELATED TO OUTER SPACE in the grid of letters.

__________ __________
__________ __________
__________ __________
____

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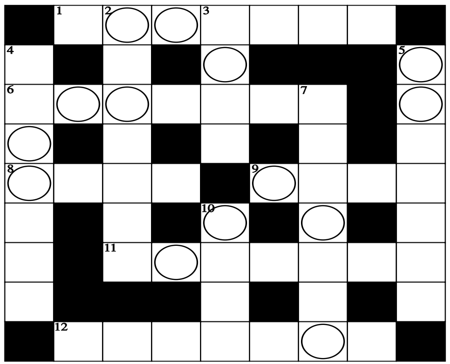
JUMBLE® CROSSWORDS™

by David L. Hoyt

Sunday Puzzle



6-21-26

ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Slow flow	LTEKIRC
6. Showy welcome	FEANRFA
8. ____ chamber	EHOC
9. String flyer	KETI
11. Post, barrier	RIAGLIN
12. Ceremonial display	NAAEPTG

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
2. Livestock farmer	HRECNRA
3. Small talk	HCTA
4. Team with the ball	FNSEOEF
5. City near Durham	HEIRALG
7. Newspaper issue	NDEIOIT
10. Actor's words	ENLI

How to play
Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

BONUS

CLUE: She began singing gospel as a child and recorded her first album, "Songs of Faith," at age 14.

○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○

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SCRABBLE® GRAMS

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A_1	E_1	L_1	C_3	S_1	L_1	H_4		RACK 1
A_1	U_1	U_1	U_1	L_1	N_1	S_1		RACK 2
A_1	U_1	T_1	P_3	S_1	R_1	T_1	2nd Letter Double	RACK 3
E_1	I_1	I_1	M_3	T_1	B_3	G_2	Triple Word Score	RACK 4
A_1	A_1	A_1	I_1	G_2	N_1	L_1		RACK 5

PAR SCORE 250-260
BEST SCORE 325

FIVE RACK TOTAL ____
TIME LIMIT: 25 MIN

Super Su Doku

		12	4		1	7		5	10		
	2			6			11			9	
			1			5		8		6	
			12				4	1		10	
8	1	3		7	10	2			4		
					6		9		8	12	
	4	2		12		6					
		1			8	11	5		7	3	9
	7		8	10				2		1	
	12		2		5			10			
	11			1			2			5	
		10	9		3	12		6	2		

Wonderword

First read the list of words, then look at the puzzle. The words are in all directions - vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backward. Circle each letter of a word found and strike it off the list. The letters are often used more than once, so do not cross them out. It's best to find the big words first. When you find all the words listed in the clues, you'll have a number of letters left over that spell out the Wonderword.

Almond, Apple Pie, Banana, Biscotti, Bowl, Brownie, Cake, Caramel, Chocolate, Cinnamon, Cone, Confetti, Cool, Cotton Candy, Creams, Crisp, Crunchy, Custard, Dairy, Dessert, Dips, Drumstick, Fluffy, Folded, Frozen, Fruity, Fudge, Gelato, Ginger, Lemon, Lick, Lime, Macadamia, Make, Mango, Maple, Marshmallows, Milk, Mint, Molasses, Nutella, Nutty, Orange, Pattern, Peach, Peanuts, Pecan, Pineapple, Pistachio, Poke, Praline, Pretzel, Rainbow, Red Velvet, Rich, Rolling, Salty, Sauce, Scoop, Shapes, S'Mores, Split, Strawberry, Sugar, Sweet, Swirl, Texture, Tiramisu, Truffle, Vanilla, Velvety, Waffle, Whipped Cream

ICE CREAM CONES **SOLUTION: 7 LETTERS**

M	M	C	I	T	T	E	F	N	O	C	P	G	T	L	Y	T	T	U	N
C	A	A	I	D	R	W	C	O	O	L	R	I	N	R	P	E	A	C	H
A	R	E	C	N	E	U	A	W	C	W	A	N	I	I	E	O	F	A	Y
R	S	U	R	A	N	S	F	F	O	O	L	G	M	W	L	L	L	D	R
A	H	C	N	C	D	A	S	F	F	B	I	E	S	S	U	L	N	N	O
M	M	S	O	C	D	A	M	E	L	L	N	R	P	F	I	A	O	E	I
E	A	T	A	O	H	E	M	O	R	E	E	I	F	N	C	O	G	R	H
L	L	E	T	L	P	Y	P	I	N	T	D	Y	A	N	K	T	N	P	C
P	L	L	E	Z	T	E	R	P	A	R	R	V	O	R	C	A	A	E	A
P	O	P	X	K	S	Y	D	L	I	R	E	T	E	S	I	L	M	A	T
A	W	A	T	L	E	M	O	N	E	H	T	T	E	L	L	E	A	N	S
E	S	M	U	I	B	C	O	B	O	O	W	S	T	E	V	G	K	U	I
N	A	S	R	M	O	R	W	R	C	M	S	E	T	A	G	E	E	T	P
I	P	H	E	H	A	A	O	U	E	A	L	U	N	D	P	D	T	S	N
P	P	A	C	N	R	H	S	W	L	S	N	A	F	O	E	O	U	Y	E
E	L	P	G	T	S	T	C	O	N	R	P	A	P	R	C	D	K	F	Z
C	E	E	S	A	A	E	M	I	L	I	A	L	N	S	U	A	L	E	O
A	P	S	U	R	S	M	A	E	R	C	E	G	I	A	I	I	K	O	R
N	I	C	D	R	U	M	S	T	I	C	K	B	U	T	B	R	T	E	F
R	E	D	V	E	L	V	E	T	I	R	A	M	I	S	U	Y	C	Y	S

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Snaps

By NY Post staff

WALKING THE BEAT

"Law & Order" star Mariska Hargitay flaunts her New York Knicks love after they won the NBA Finals.

GC Images

'TINI, TEENY BIKINI

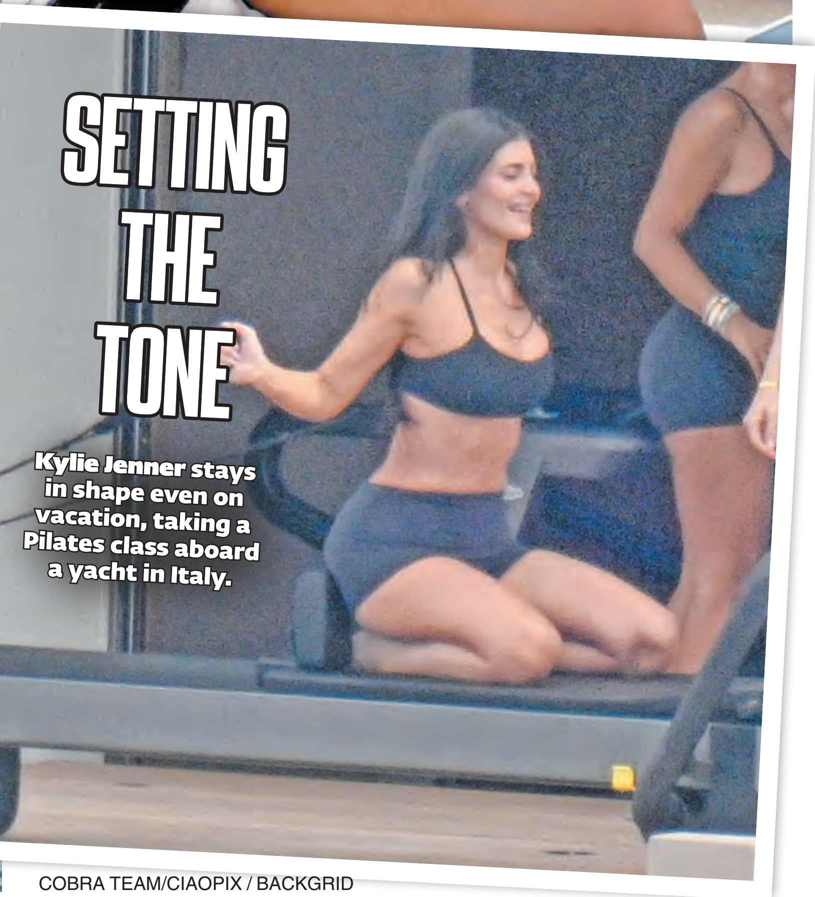
Keke Palmer enjoys the view from the rooftop pool at the William Vale hotel in Williamsburg.

kekepalmer/Instagram

LAP'PILY EVER AFTER

"Masters of the Universe" star Camila Mendes sits on fiancé Rudy Mancuso's lap at their friends' wedding in Italy.

camimendes/Instagram

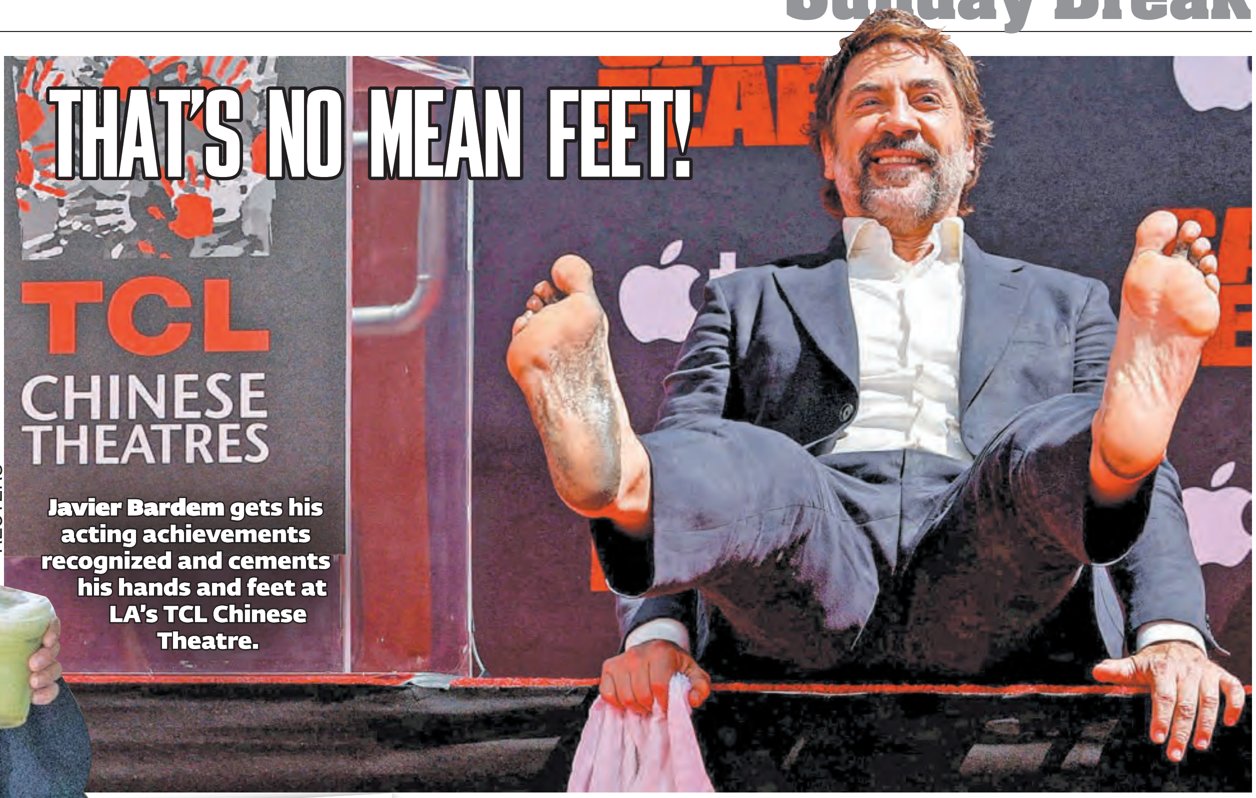


SETTING THE TONE

Kylie Jenner stays in shape even on vacation, taking a Pilates class aboard a yacht in Italy.

COBRA TEAM/CIAOPIX / BACKGRID

THAT'S NO MEAN FEET!



Javier Bardem gets his acting achievements recognized and cements his hands and feet at LA's TCL Chinese Theatre.

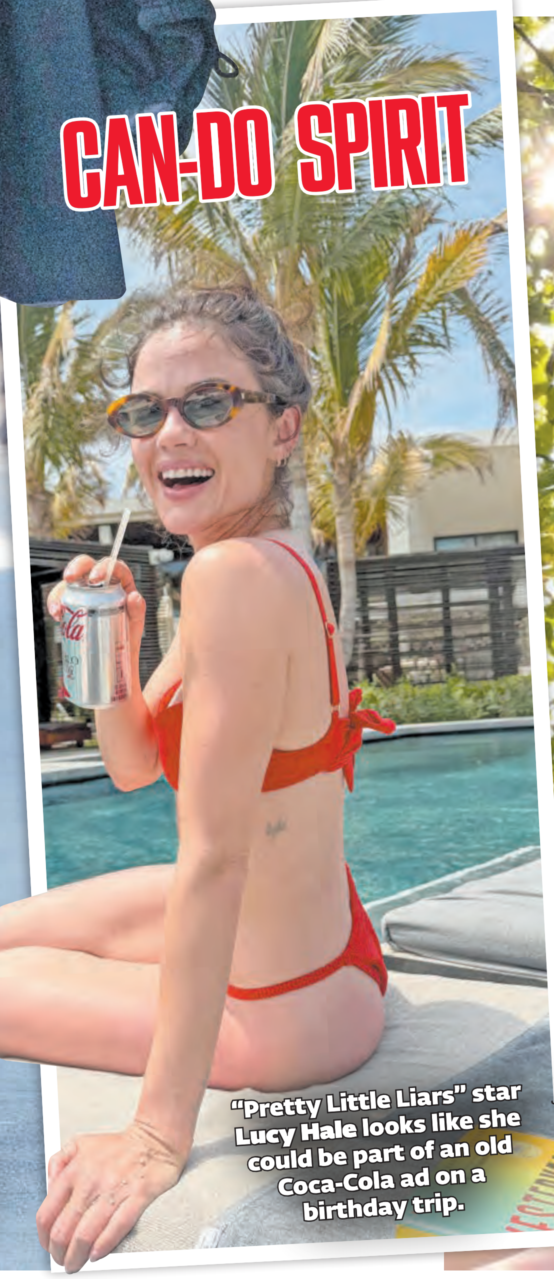
REUTERS

GAME, SET, MATCHA

One order of matcha isn't enough for model **Amelia Gray Hamlin**, who's holding a photo shoot in LA.

BACKGRID

CAN-DO SPIRIT



"Pretty Little Liars" star **Lucy Hale** looks like she could be part of an old Coca-Cola ad on a birthday trip.

lucyhale/Instagram

BLISSFULLY CONE-TENT

Joe Jonas takes a break during a "Burnin' Up" day to enjoy some soft serve.

joejonas/Instagram

Snaps

IN-JEAN-IOUS MOVES

JoJo Siwa makes a splash with her performance for her Concert at Sea aboard the Utopia of the Seas cruise ship.

itsjojosiwa/Instagram

GOLDEN AND CRISPY

Sami Sheen, the daughter of Charlie Sheen and Denise Richards, eats some greasy junk food.

samisheen/Instagram

EXECUTIVE ORDER

A besuited **Nicole Kidman** stays at the Peninsula Hotel in Paris and peruses the menu at the rooftop restaurant.

nicolekidman/Instagram

GLOSSY POSSE

Kim Kardashian goes for a similar makeup look as she wishes daughter **North West** a happy 13th birthday.

kimkardashian/Instagram

SJ'PEEPING

Sarah Jessica Parker is spotted people-watching from a stoop while filming an unknown project in the city.

Fernando Ramales / BACKGRID

SHIELDS OF SUPPORT

Brooke Shields takes her daughters **Grier** (left) and **Rowan Henchy** to dinner to celebrate her new show, "You're Killing Me."

David Benthal/BFA.com

L'UNION FAIT LA FORCE
I LOVE HAITI
I LOVE HAITI
I LOVE HAITI
EATRE

FLAGGING ATTENTION

Eric André shows off his Haitian pride at the Season 3 premiere of "Survival of the Thickest" during the Tribeca Film Festival.

GC Images

Zayn Malik is lost in thought at his tour stop in Monterrey, Mexico.

zayn/Instagram

WHAT'D YOU ZAY?

HEAD OF THE CLASS

Bridget Moynahan is the biggest fan of her son, **Jack**, 18, kissing a cutout of his face at his HS graduation.

bridgetmoynahan/Instagram

LOOK WHO'S TALKING

THIS WEEK'S GUESTS

TONIGHT SHOW STARRING JIMMY FALLON

11:35 p.m., NBC

Monday: Zoey Deutch, Reese Witherspoon (above)

Tuesday: Tracee Ellis Ross, Milly Alcock

Wednesday: Lin-Manuel Miranda, Britt Lower

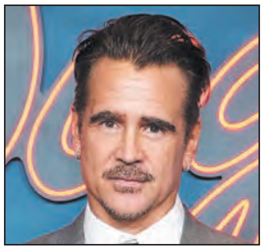
LIVE WITH KELLY AND MARK

9 a.m., ABC

Monday: William Stanford Davis (above)

Tuesday: Mariah Carey, Malin Akerman

Wednesday: Eugene Levy, Rose Byrne



THE VIEW

11 a.m., ABC

Monday: Charlamagne Tha God and Loren LaRosa

Tuesday: Maggie Haberman and Jonathan Swan

Wednesday: Colin Farrell (above)

Sunday June 21, 2026

SP = Spectrum, C = Cablevision, F = FiOS   Movies 🟥   Sports 🟩   New 🟨

Evening	SP	C	F	6:30pm	7:00pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	8:30pm	9:00pm	9:30pm	10:00pm	10:30pm	11:00pm	11:30pm
2 WCBS	2	2	2	News 6:30pm	60 Minutes		Marshals: Piya Wiconi (R)		Tracker: The Field Trip (R)		Marshals: Zone of Death (R)		CBS News 11pm	(11:35) Crossroads
4 WNBC	4	4	4	U.S. Open Golf Live.	MLB Baseball: New York Mets at Philadelphia Phillies from Citizens Bank Park. Live.						Password: Ariana Madix & Jimmy Fallon (R)		News 4 New York at 11	News
5 WNYW	5	5	5	(6:00) 6 O'Clock News	The Quiz with Balls: Lifeguards vs. Beauty (R)		Celebrity Crime Scene: Marilyn Monroe		American Dad!: Dumbston Checks In; A		The 10 O'Clock News	Sports Extra	FOX Local Futbol HQ	In Depth
7 WABC	7	7	7	ABC World News	America's Funniest Home Videos: Oblivious, Bust		(8:02) Home Videos (R)	(8:33) Sister Act (1992, Comedy) Whoopi Goldberg, Maggie Smith. PG ★★½					Eyewitness News at 11	
9 WWOR	9	9	9	(6:00) 6 O'Clock News	Chicago P.D.: Climbing Into Bed		Family Feud (R)	Family Feud (R)	Family Feud (R)	Family Feud (R)	Suits: Litt the Hell Up		Suits: We're Done	
11 WPIX	11	11	11	Paid Program	The Karate Kid (1984, Drama): A teenager in a new town is bullied until an old man teaches him karate. Ralph Macchio. PG ★★★						PIX11 News at Ten with Kaity Tong		New York Nightcap	Yankees Nation
13 WNET	13	13	13	Life Unearthed	Beyond Paradise		Patience: Music in the Minster		Grantchester		Downton Abbey: Part Two		Murder in the Mountains: Rotten Eggs (R)	
21 WLIW	21	21	21	This Land	Great Performances		American Experience: Woodstock: Three Days (R)					Simon & Garfunkel		
25 WNYE	25	22	25	Aktina TV	Buzz (2009)	Profiles	On Story	Day's Work	Her B Idea	Neighbor	Nightmare Theatre			
31 WPXN	31	3	531	(6:00) NCIS	NCIS: Monsters and Men		NCIS: Bulletproof		NCIS: Dressed to Kill		NCIS: Rock and Place		NCIS: Crescent City	
41 WXTV	41	6	41	N Univisio	La rosa de Guadalupe		Garra vs Veneno: Guerreros Mundiales				Complices		Noticias	N Univisio
47 WNJU	47	16	12	Copa Mundial de FIFA 2026 Directo.			Mundial	Copa Mundial de FIFA 2026: Egypt vs New Zealand. Directo.					El Mundial	Noticiero
55 WLNY	55	10	10	Pocono	Inside	The Point	CBS News Sunday Morning (R)			Paid	Judge Judy	Paid	Neighbor.	Neighbor.
A&E	46	46	181	WWE Rivals	WWE Rivals (R)		UFC Rivals		UFC Rivals		WWE LFG: Tag Team		WWE: Great	WWE: Great
AMC	54	43	231	(5:30) Gladiator (2000, Drama) Russell Crowe, Joaquin Phoenix. R					The Vampire Lestat		(10:14) The Vampire Lestat: Toronto			Mummy 2
BBCAM	71	101	189	(4:30) American Gangster (2007) R ★★★½			GoodFellas (1990, Crime) Robert De Niro. R ★★★★						American Gangster ★★★½	
BET	37	54	270	Fatherhood	Guess Who (2005, Comedy) Bernie Mac. PG-13 ★★½						Johnson Family Vacation (2004) PG-13 ★½			
BRAVO	18	44	185	Housewives	Real Housewives (R)		Real Housewives Atlanta		Rhode Island		Watch What	(10:45) Real Housewives of Atlanta (R)		
CNBC	15	24	102	Shark Tank	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank (R)		Shark Tank		Shark Tank (R)	
CNN	78	25	100	Newsroom	CNN Newsroom		Chasing Soccer Glory		This Land: Empire Island		This Land: Last Frontier		Chasing Soccer Glory	
COMEDY	45	50	190	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	
DISC	66	27	120	(6:00) Naked & Afraid: Global			Naked and Afraid: Global Showdown: A Raft Trouble				(10:01) Eye of Storm		(11:02) Eye of Storm (R)	
DISNEY	49	31	250	Big City	Finding Nemo (2003) Albert Brooks. G			Phineas	Phineas	Phineas	Vampirina	Wizards	Miraculous	Miraculous
E!	24	51	196	Mother (R)	Mother (R)	Mother (R)	Mother (R)	Mother (R)	Mother (R)	Mother (R)	Mother (R)	Mother (R)	Mother (R)	Mother (R)
ESPN	28	36	70	30 for 30	WNBA Countdown		WNBA Basketball Live.				SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	29	35	74	WNFC	ESPN Films		Major League Rugby: Championship Live.					Peyton's	ESPN FC	
FBN	43	106	117	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops (R)	Cops (R)	Cops (R)	Cops (R)	Cops (R)	Cops (R)
FNC	44	26	118	(5:00) The Big Weekend Show			Life, Liberty & Levin		Sunday Night		One Nation		Life, Liberty & Levin (R)	
FOOD	50	97	164	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	100 Cooks: 71 Cooks Remain, Part 1			100 Cooks		100 Cooks		Chopped Castaways	
FREE	38	49	199	Incredible	(7:20) The Incredibles 2 (2018, Family) Holly Hunter, Craig T. Nelson. PG ★★★½						The Lion King (1994, Family) James Earl Jones. ★★★½			
FS1	400	99	83	(6:00) 2026 FIFA World Cup Live.			FIFA World Cup Live.		2026 FIFA World Cup: Egypt at New Zealand. Live.				FIFA World Cup Taped.	
FX	10	40	53	Avengers	Avengers: Endgame (2019, Action) Robert Downey Jr. PG-13 ★★★★								Ford v Ferrari (2019) ★★★½	
HALL		191	240	It Was	The Love Heist (2026, Romance) Lyndsy Fonseca.				The Way Home: Ahead by a Century			(10:34) Savoring Paris (2024)		
HGTV	64	98	165	Love It	Love It or List It		Renovation Island		Crashers		Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters
HIST	40	47	128	Hazardous	Hazardous History (R)		Hazardous History (R)		Hazardous History		(10:03) Food Built		(11:05) Food Built (R)	
ID	23	171	123	Evil Here	Evil Lives Here		Bodies in the Water		Surviving a Serial Killer		Case Paula Zahn		Case Paula Zahn	
LIFE	62	45	140	(6:00) The Jealous Bride (2026)			My Husband's Mistress (2025)				(10:03) Don't Trust the Girls Upstairs (2026, Thriller)			
MeTV	33	33	3	Collectors	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Golden	Golden	Golden	Golden	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Family	Family
MSG	27	87	78	MSG Summer	The Coaches Corner		Team Boxing League: Dallas Enforcers at San Antonio Snipers					MSG Shorts	MSG Shorts	Team
MSG Plus	48	88	80	(12:00) FanDuel Racing					PokerGO Cup		PokerGO Cup		PokerGO Cup	
MSNOW	14	23	103	Weekend	The Weekend		The Weekend		Jen Psaki (R)		Crooked on MS NOW		The Weekend (R)	
MTV	20	53	210	Bang	Happy Gilmore (1996, Comedy) Adam Sandler. ★★★				Old School (2003, Comedy) Luke Wilson. R ★★★				Happy Gilmore (1996) ★★★	
NATGEO	65	162	121	Octopus (R)	Secrets Octopus (R)		Secrets of the Bees (R)		(9:07) Secrets Bees (R)		(10:09) Cheetahs Close		(11:09) Dolphins Close	
NICK	6	121	252	SpongeBob	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Bang	Bang	(11:15) Big Bang Theory	
OWN	173	180	145	48 Hours:	48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence	
PARMT	36	56	54	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue: Gutterball!		Bar Rescue (R)		Bar Rescue (R)		Bar Rescue (R)		Bar Rescue (R)	
SNY	26	60	77	Minor Lgue	Minor League Baseball Replay.						Post Game	Sports	Sports	Sports
SYFY	17	48	180	(5:30) The Exorcist (1973, Horror) R ★★★½			The Exorcist: Believer (2023, Horror) Leslie Odom Jr. R ★★					The Day After Tomorrow (2004) ★★½		
TBS	8	39	52	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang
TCM	82	41	230	(5:45) Life With Father (1947, Comedy)			Father of the Bride (1950) NR ★★★			(9:45) To Kill a Mockingbird (1963, Drama) Gregory Peck. NR ★★★★				
TLC	52	28	139	90 Day Fiancé: When Two Worlds			90 Day Fiancé: The Ball and Chain				(10:03) 90 Day Diaries		(11:03) Welcome to (R)	
TNT	3	37	51	Dune: Part Two (2024)		Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire (2024, Action) Rebecca Hall.					(10:15) Dune (2021, Action) Rebecca Ferguson. ★★★			
TVLAND	85	34	241	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	(9:20) Loves Raymond		Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
USA	16	38	50	(6:00) SVU	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU	
VH1	19	52	217	(5:30) Winter's Bone (2010, Drama) ★★★			The Commuter (2018, Thriller) Liam Neeson. PG-13 ★★★					Winter's Bone (2010) R ★★★		
WE	59	42	149	Minds	Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds: Coda		Criminal Minds: Valhalla	
YES	53	89	76	Home Plate		Yankees	FathersDay	Major League Cricket: Texas Super Kings at MI New York. Live.						
HBO	511	301	400	(6:37) Of the Dragon (R)		House of the Dragon: Queen Who Was			House of the Dragon		(10:12) House of the Dragon (R)			Last Week
MAX	531	371	420	Papillon R	Pawn (2013, Crime) Michael Chiklis. ★★½			(8:28) Room (2015, Drama) Brie Larson. R ★★★½				(10:26) Leave No Trace (2018, Drama)		
MGM Plus	595		395	(6:20) Project Hail Mary (2026, Drama) Ryan Gosling. PG-13					From: The Calm Before		From: The Calm Before		A Quiet Place: Day One	
PARSHO	551	321	365	(5:45) Top Gun: Maverick (2022, Action)			The Chi: White Widow		The Chi: Dead of Winter		Daniela Forever (2025, Drama) Henry Golding. R			

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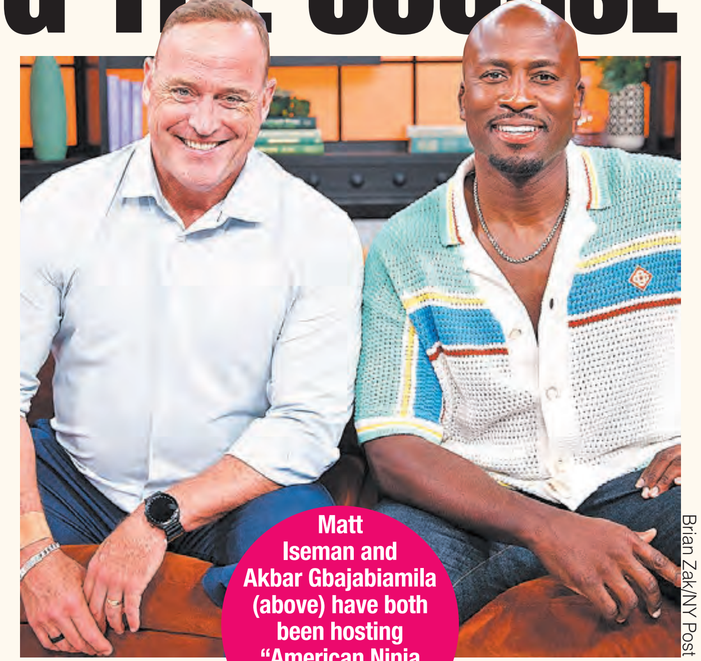
STAYING THE COURSE



Brian Zak/NY Post

Matt Iseman and Akbar Gbajabiamila (above) have both been hosting "American Ninja Warrior" for over a decade.

'American Ninja Warrior' hosts Matt Iseman and Akbar Gbajabiamila talk Season 18

1 AMERICAN NINJA WARRIOR

New episodes air Mondays 9 p.m. on NBC, stream next day on Peacock

By KAREN KEMMERLE

After hosting **"American Ninja Warrior"** together for over a decade, Matt Iseman and Akbar Gbajabiamila know each other inside and out. With the hit NBC reality competition franchise back for its 18th season, the two are constantly in awe of how these athletes have evolved and forced the sport to evolve with them. Though Iseman assured fans that Mount Midoriyama, the show's former final obstacle, is "not necessarily gone forever," the series had to feature the speed and skills of its athletes by incorporating a racing element.

Accordingly, fans this season will see ninjas race head-to-head-to-head in the Triple Header course. "This was the most electric new edition of the show we've had in a long time," said Iseman. "The sport is so much more fast-paced now," added Gbajabiamila. The world has certainly taken notice, announcing that obstacle racing will be incorporated into the Modern Pentathlon at the next Olympics. "There's no better way to prepare than out on the course going head-to-head," said Gbajabiamila.

While Iseman and Gbajabiamila love the sport of ninja, they also love the community it fosters. "Ninjas are such a special breed of people," said Iseman. Over the years, the duo has watched the child athletes they first met on **"American Ninja Warrior Junior"** become the fiercest competitors on the main show. "This is one of those sports that is not just about your ability, but your ability to put the work in day in and day out, to learn from failure, and continue to evolve," said Iseman.

DECIDER: Back again for Season 18! What changes to the format can viewers expect this season?

MATT ISEMAN: We've done regions in the past, but for Season 18, we've divided the competitions into west, central and east. In the regional finals, we're introducing the triple header course. We've had ninjas go head-to-head before, but now this is head-to-head-to-head! This is the most electric new edition of the show we've had in a long time.

AKBAR GBAJABIAMILA: It really is. The show is constantly evolving. It used to be a longer, more drawn-out show/sport where you would watch these individual ninjas tackle the obstacles solo on the course. Now, these ninjas are testing their limits by racing opposite each other. The sport is so much more fast-paced now. This new format looks a little bit Olympic-y. You see what I did there? The ninjas know the show is getting ready to go to the Olympics. There's no better way to prepare than out on the course going head-to-head.

Let's talk about the course a bit. What makes the Roller Bag so diabolical?

AG: TSA couldn't even check that luggage! The design was great on it, but our ninjas stepped up to the challenge. They weren't afraid. They just wanted to come out and compete.

MI: Extracting the handle from the roller bag suspended in the air and then having to latch with it is crazy! It was interesting to watch the ninjas strategize as they approached it. You could see people thinking, "how much pull is it going to take? How much will it zap me when I get thrown?" One of the things we see with our great ninjas is their insane problem-solving abilities, which is what an obstacle like Roller Bag requires.

What can you tease about the upcoming season?

MI: It's fast. Some of the head-to-head racing was so unbelievable. Despite the fact that we're making predictions, we just couldn't predict how some of these races turned out. You see some David versus Goliath battles and some incredible ninjas. At the same time, you'll also see fan-favorite ninjas sit there in the water as someone else goes by them. It's heartbreaking, but it's what makes the show so special.

AG: The action speaks for itself this season. It really does.

2 THE AGENCY

Sunday, PARAMOUNT+

Season 2 of the spy thriller will see the return of CIA agent Martian (Michael Fassbender), who continues to go undercover in his own life, as he tries to do anything to save his lover Samia (Jodie Turner-Smith).

3 ALL AMERICAN: THE FINAL SEASON SPECIAL

Monday 9 p.m., The CW

Ahead of the hit sports drama's eighth and final season premiere on July 13, The CW is airing an hour-long special to celebrate the series and its beloved characters..

4 LOVE IT OR LIST IT

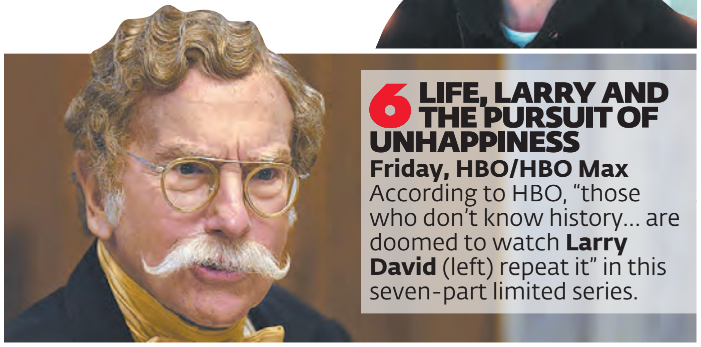
Tuesday 8 p.m., HGTV

Designer **Page Turner** and real estate agent **David Visentin** (right) return for Season 21 of this reality series, which sees homeowners determine whether they want to renovate or sell their homes.

5 THE BEAR

Thursday, FX/Hulu

The fifth and final season of the hit dramedy picks up the day after Head Chef Carmen "Carmy" Berzatto (**Jeremy Allen White**,right) has decided to leave the food industry.



6 LIFE, LARRY AND THE PURSUIT OF UNHAPPINESS

Friday, HBO/HBO Max

According to HBO, "those who don't know history… are doomed to watch **Larry David** (left) repeat it" in this seven-part limited series.

7 STRUNG

Friday, Peacock

Director Malcolm D. Lee's new horror film stars **Chloe Bailey** (right) as Laila, a violinist who becomes a music tutor for the daughter of an influential family. However, Laila begins to question everything as secrets emerge.

8 DATELINE

Friday 10 p.m., NBC

A year after the catastrophic floods that took more than 130 lives in Central Texas, a group of mothers who lost their daughters at Camp Mystic sit down with **Lester Holt** (left) to discuss their grief, their bond, and their investigation into what happened that tragic night.

Sally Brompton Daily Horoscope

GEMINI
(May 22-June 21)
There is no point having regrets about what you did or did not do, so be kind to yourself and leave the past behind once and for all. A new phase has begun and now it is all about the choices you make in the weeks and months ahead.

CANCER
(June 22-July 23)
Your life will change for the better now the Sun is moving into your sign, but don't take anything for granted. The forces working in your favor are strong, but there will also be lesser forces working against you that could still cause trouble.

LEO
(July 24-Aug. 23)
You need to get past the idea that you can do no wrong and cannot fail. You may be one of the more confident members of the zodiac, but you are not invincible. If you talk big this week, it could put a target on your back.

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT YOURSELF AND WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS AT SALLYBROMPTON.COM

VIRGO
(Aug. 24-Sept. 23)
Good people and good things will come your way over the next few days. This is the time of year when you are most inclined to join forces with individuals whose principles align with your own, so be open to new friendships and new ideas.

LIBRA
(Sept. 24-Oct. 23)
The next few days could get a bit bumpy, but you will survive and most likely thrive. As a cardinal sign, you tend to do best when opposing forces put you under pressure, and on the work front you are sure to be challenged.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 24-Nov. 22)
Focus on what excites you and ignore everything else. Others may say you are selfish in that you care only about what interests you, but you've done your bit for the greater good and now intend to reward yourself, because no one else will.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)
Now the Sun has joined Jupiter in the area of your chart that governs your wealth, the time is right to push ahead with a project you believe can make you rich. You must stay focused though — don't keep changing your plans.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)
If you have to tread on a few toes to get things done on the work front over the coming week, then so be it. Nice guys don't always finish last, but they rarely finish first either, so don't be afraid to confront your critics.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
The choices you make over the next few days will affect other people as much as they affect you, so weigh up the pros and cons. You don't have to back off for fear of hurting their feelings but you must avoid being reckless.

PISCES
(Feb. 20-Mar. 20)
You won't have to try too hard with the Sun on your side, but you will need a plan that will take you from where you are now to where you most want to be. Make that plan the foundation on which you build something of lasting value.

ARIES
(March 21-April 20)
By all means indulge yourself a bit over the coming week, but don't overdo it. The Sun's move into one of the more sensitive areas of your chart warns you may not be as sturdy physically or emotionally as you usually are.

TAURUS
(April 21-May 21)
A little bit of effort will take you a long way over the next few days, so think what might happen if you put in a serious shift. When traveling and socializing, be wary of taking risks that could go wrong as easily as they could go right.

BIRTHDAY SUNDAY
You know who you are and what you can do, but some of the people you work with this year won't possess the same level of confidence. Make it your business to nurture their talents so they can join you at the uppermost level.

Sunday Break puzzles answers

Sunday Crossword

D	E	E	J	A	Y	■	■	F	A	I	T	■	B	R	A	■	N	D	A	■
E	N	R	O	B	E	■	T	O	N	N	E	■	L	O	U	■	F	I	R	M
M	E	G	H	A	N	M	A	R	K	L	E	■	E	A	T	S	L	A	T	E
I	R	O	N	■	T	I	X	■	L	E	T	S	D	R	O	P	■	B	I	T
■	■	■	W	E	A	N	■	R	E	T	I	P	■	E	T	A	I	L	E	R
U	S	A	I	N	■	O	P	U	S	■	M	A	N	D	Y	M	O	O	R	E
M	A	R	C	M	A	R	O	N	■	D	E	C	O	■	P	A	N	■	■	■
P	I	C	K	E	T	■	P	I	C	A	■	E	T	H	E	L	■	A	S	K
S	L	O	■	S	T	P	■	C	A	T	C	A	F	E	■	O	E	S	T	E
■	■	■	W	H	I	R	R	■	M	A	R	G	A	R	E	T	M	E	A	D
C	H	A	I	■	R	E	E	S	E	■	A	E	I	O	U	■	M	A	R	S
M	A	R	L	E	E	M	A	T	L	I	N	■	R	I	G	B	Y	■	■	■
D	R	I	L	L	■	E	L	A	S	T	I	C	■	C	E	L	■	A	P	E
R	E	A	■	C	A	D	E	T	■	C	A	A	N	■	N	I	E	C	E	S
■	■	■	N	A	M	■	S	E	S	H	■	M	I	K	E	M	Y	E	R	S
M	A	R	Y	M	A	R	T	I	N	■	B	O	N	E	■	P	E	S	T	O
I	T	E	M	I	Z	E	■	D	O	S	A	S	■	L	E	S	S	■	■	■
L	O	L	■	N	O	A	N	S	W	E	R	■	A	L	L	■	O	O	P	S
A	N	A	C	O	N	D	A	■	M	I	C	K	E	Y	M	A	N	T	L	E
N	A	T	O	■	I	O	S	■	A	N	A	I	S	■	S	A	M	O	A	N
■	L	E	G	■	A	N	A	■	N	E	R	D	■	■	T	H	E	E	N	D

Su Doku

3	6	9	2	5	7	8	4	1
5	7	8	6	1	4	3	9	2
1	2	4	3	9	8	5	7	6
7	4	5	1	2	6	9	8	3
6	8	3	4	7	9	2	1	5
2	9	1	8	3	5	4	6	7
9	1	7	5	4	3	6	2	8
8	3	2	9	6	1	7	5	4
4	5	6	7	8	2	1	3	9

Very Easy #7,316

9	8	2	1	7	4	6	3	5
3	1	5	9	2	6	7	8	4
6	7	4	8	5	3	1	9	2
8	5	7	3	4	1	9	2	6
4	6	9	7	8	2	3	5	1
1	2	3	6	9	5	4	7	8
5	4	6	2	3	9	8	1	7
2	9	8	4	1	7	5	6	3
7	3	1	5	6	8	2	4	9

Difficult #7,106

1	7	9	2	4	3	5	6	8
8	5	3	1	6	7	9	2	4
4	2	6	8	5	9	1	3	7
3	4	8	9	7	2	6	1	5
5	1	7	4	3	6	2	8	9
9	6	2	5	1	8	4	7	3
6	3	1	7	9	4	8	5	2
7	8	4	6	2	5	3	9	1
2	9	5	3	8	1	7	4	6

Challenging #560

Super Su Doku

6	3	12	4	9	1	7	8	5	10	2	11
10	2	8	5	6	12	3	11	7	1	9	4
7	9	11	1	4	2	5	10	8	3	6	12
2	5	9	12	3	11	8	4	1	6	10	7
8	1	3	6	7	10	2	12	9	4	11	5
4	10	7	11	5	6	1	9	3	8	12	2
9	4	2	3	12	7	6	1	11	5	8	10
12	6	1	10	2	8	11	5	4	7	3	9
11	7	5	8	10	9	4	3	2	12	1	6
1	12	4	2	8	5	9	6	10	11	7	3
3	11	6	7	1	4	10	2	12	9	5	8
5	8	10	9	11	3	12	7	6	2	4	1

Kakuro

■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	1	2	5	■	2	5	3	■
■	6	2	8	9	■	5	9	7	8
■	9	6	■	■	9	7	■	8	9
■	4	3	5	9	8	6	■	9	6
■	■	■	2	8	4	1	6	■	■
■	4	8	■	4	2	3	1	8	7
■	2	9	■	3	1	■	■	4	5
■	1	5	6	2	■	8	6	7	9
■	■	7	9	6	■	6	1	9	■

Kakuro #560

KEN KEN

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3	6	60× 4	5− 1	5 5	5+ 2
4 4	3	5	6	2	1

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Jumble

ANSWERS: 1A-Trickle 6A-Fanfare 8A-Echo 9A-Kite 11A-Railing 12A-Pageant 2D-Rancher 3D-Chat 4D-Offense 5D-Raleigh 7D-Edition 10D-Line B-Aretha Franklin

Boggle Brain Busters Bonus

STAR, MOON, COMET, ORBIT, COSMOS, GALAXY, PLANET

SCRABBLE GRAMS SOLUTION

S_1	H_4	E_1	L_1	L_1	A_1	C_3	RACK 1 =	62
U_1	N_1	U_1	S_1	U_1	A_1	L_1	RACK 2 =	57
U_1	P_3	S_1	T_1	A_1	R_1	T_1	RACK 3 =	62
B_3	I_1	G_2	T_1	I_1	M_3	E_1	RACK 4 =	86
A_1	N_1	A_1	L_1	G_2	I_1	A_1	RACK 5 =	58
							TOTAL	325

PAR SCORE 250-260

Sunday Word Force

aioli
alien
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atilt

atone
inane
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latte

lento
linen
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oaten

taint
talon
tenon
titan

title
toile
tonal
total

Wonderword answer: CORNETS

THE WEEK'S WINNERS

FANATICS
Knicks' historic NBA championship title drives record-breaking merch sales on sports retailer's website.

FOX CORP
Deal to acquire Roku for roughly $22 billion would create the third-largest player in US television by share of viewing.

YUM! BRANDS
Shares got a bump with a pair of deals to sell the struggling Pizza Hut chain for nearly $3 billion.

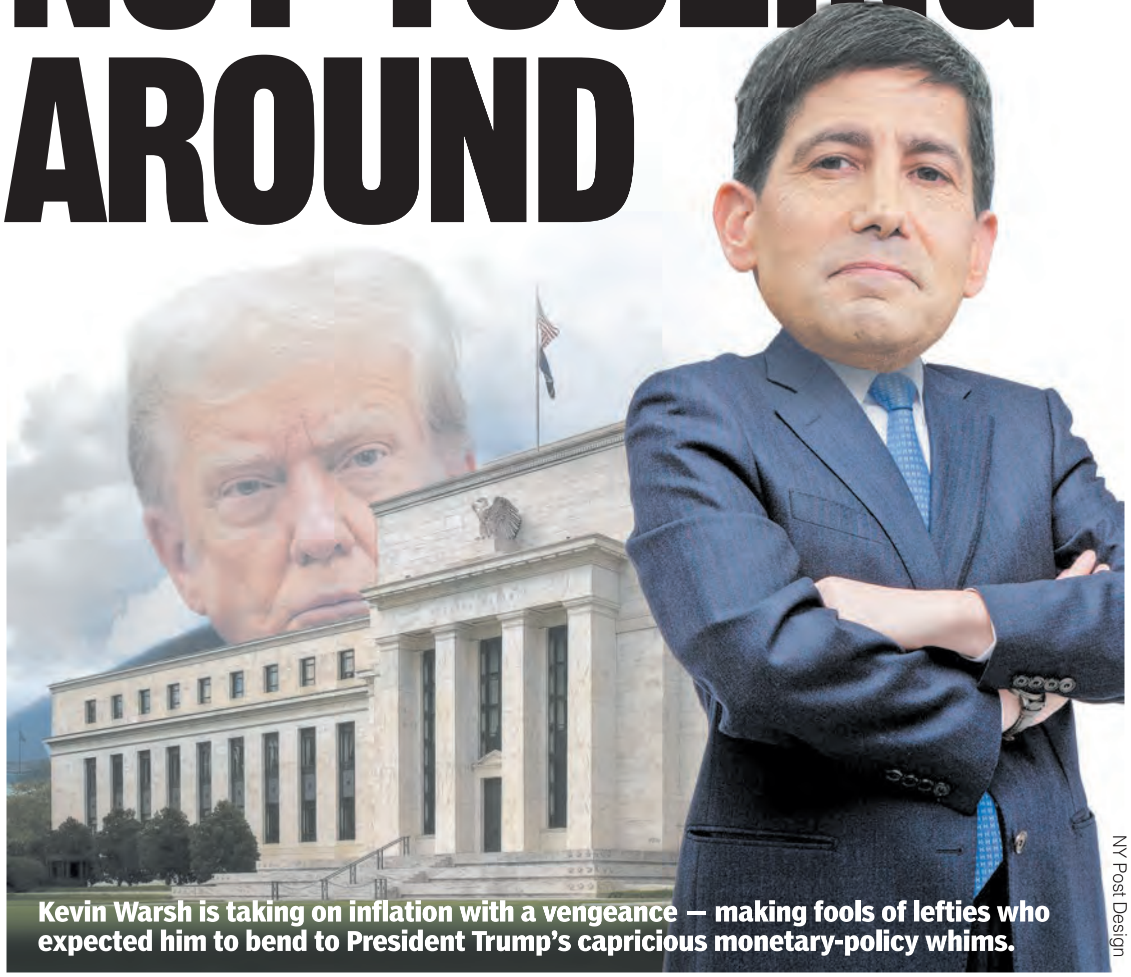
LOSERS

TIM COOK
Apple CEO warns that price hikes are on the way, citing memory chip shortage.

LULULEMON
Apologizes for using a Japanese drum at Great Wall of China yoga event last month in another public relations headache.

AL JAZEERA
Boss issues memo telling network staff to avoid appearing like they are participating in anti-Israel protests.

NOT TOOLING AROUND



Kevin Warsh is taking on inflation with a vengeance — making fools of lefties who expected him to bend to President Trump's capricious monetary-policy whims.

NY Post Design

Fed Chair Warsh proving he won't do Don's bidding

CHARLES GASPARINO

NEARLY every Democrat in the Senate opposed Kevin Warsh's nomination as Fed chair mainly because they said he would be a tool of the man who appointed him, President Trump.

This past week, Warsh made them look downright foolish.

Yes, the knock on Warsh was that he would deliver lower short-term rates to goose the economy as the midterms approach, despite persistent inflationary pressures, because he owes his loyalty to The Donald as opposed to his long-held beliefs about monetary policy. That such BS came from lefties like Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) should have been a tell of their political nature, as opposed to the reality of what Warsh — a long-time inflationary hawk — brings to the table.

These are, after all, people who really didn't care about price stability when sleepy Joe Biden was inflating the economy away with trillions of needless fiscal stimuli, goosed by the rock-bottom interest rates unleashed by Warsh's predecessor, Jerome Powell.

But Warsh came out swinging against inflation and held rates steady amid persistent inflationary pressures. His hawkish sentiments were delivered in comments after presiding over his first Federal Reserve Open Market Committee — during his first, very brief FOMC press conference.

Sorry Lizzy & Co., Warsh is no tool — right out of the gate, he proved he will be his own man on many levels. That also includes alerting markets that the Fed would be letting data decide the course of interest rates, as opposed to signaling its moves based on uneven forecasting.

Data over politics

Being a Fed chair who puts data over politics was in itself a relief from the recent boring albeit market-moving monologues on interest rates and the economy regularly puked up by people who have held his position.

Since the latter years of the Greenspan Fed, you got the impression that people running a central bank thought they had an extra layer of responsibility on top of price stability in the context of economic growth.

The Fed chair should be giving lots of guidance to the markets, as if telling speculators how to behave is key to the central bank's premise to make sure that the wages of average Americans aren't eaten away by inflation.

Warsh will be breaking from that noxious tradition. Rather, he will focus on whipping inflation and studying numbers — and not obsessing about the opinions offered by various Fed governors.

Hence his short press conference.

Hence his refusal to submit to the finger-in-the-wind "dot plot" analysis Fed policy makers used to submit. Hence calls to reform various parts of the Fed's analytical arms, including its overreliance on a Phillips Curve analysis when setting interest rates, which argues growth always begets inflation when in fact common sense and evidence show the trade-off to be a figment of poor economic modeling.

Hence his stated premise that the Fed's goal to work to a 2% inflation target remains — despite what Trump wants — because the data shows prices remain above that threshold.

All of the above are much-needed reforms that Warsh has been touting in the years leading up to his appointment to the job over the hapless Powell, who got a free pass from the Trump-hating business media not because he was good at his job. He wasn't. If you don't believe me, Google the term "transitory inflation" that he allowed to fester during the Biden presidency.

Yes, Powell — who remains as a governor — is supposed to be qualifying for sainthood because he stood up to mean old Trump.

Powell supposedly stood for Fed independence — the central bank was created by Congress in 1913 to be free of political pressure. That's why he is staying as a governor, as is his right.

Trump countered that Powell doesn't have anything else to do with his time, which I have to admit was pretty funny. What wasn't funny was Powell's abysmal record in the job and the notion that the very independent man who replaced him was supposedly a tool of the president.

I know what you're saying: One strong FOMC meeting doesn't really prove anything. True. But if you know Warsh like I do, you also know his background: A longtime Fed governor, academic, investor and thought leader who believes taming inflation is what the Fed should be spending its time doing, not giving forward guidance to markets.

It's central to his belief in reducing the Fed's massive balance sheet.

He held rates steady in his first meeting; the Iran conflict coming to a conclusion means lower energy prices are likely in the not-so-distant future. AI-related productivity could soon be taking down prices another notch. So he may hold them steady again in September, but all bets are off the table if inflation doesn't recede.

It all depends on the data, he said. It's why he's no tool.

Classifieds

NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

**NASSAU COUNTY
NOTICE OF MEETING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, pursuant to the County Government Law of Nassau County, the Nassau County Legislature will consider ON MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2026 AT 1 PM, IN THE PETER J. SCHMITT MEMORIAL LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER, 1st FLOOR, THEODORE ROOSEVELT EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BUILDING, 1550 FRANKLIN AVENUE, MINE- OLA, NEW YORK 11501 the below proposed ordinances:
AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES. 132-26 (OMB)
AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MUSEUMS. 133-26 (OMB)
TWO ORDINANCES SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT. 134-26 AND 147-26 (OMB)
FOUR ORDINANCES SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT. 148-26, 149-26, 150-26 AND 157-26 (OMB)
AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE NASSAU COUNTY BUDGET FOR NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR THE FIS- CAL YEAR COMMENCING SEPTEMBER 1, 2026 AND ENDING AUGUST 31, 2027, AND TO APPROPRIATE REVENUES AND THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MONIES TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION WITHIN THE COUNTY OF NASSAU FOR THE PURPOSES OF NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR SUCH FISCAL YEAR, PURSUANT OT THE PROVISIONS OF THE EDUCATION LAW, THE COUNTY LAW, THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW, THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT LAW OF NASSAU COUNTY AND THE NASSAU COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE. 139-26 (NCC)
Copies of the proposed ordinances are on file and may be obtained in the Office of the Clerk of the Nassau County Legislature during normal business hours BY ORDER of the Nassau County Legislature of the County of Nassau, New York.
Dated: June 16, 2026
Garden City (Mineola Post Office), NY

MICHAEL C. PULITZER
Clerk of the Legislature

The Nassau County Fire Marshal's Office orders a maximum occupancy of 251 people for the Peter J. Schmitt Memorial Legislative Chamber and an additional 71 people for the legislative antechamber. Attendees who will address the Legislature must submit a written slip to the Clerk's office staff. The Rules of the Legislature limit public comment to three minutes per person. At meetings of the full Legislature, members of the public may speak during the pre-calendar public comment period and during public hearings. At meetings of the Legislature's committees and prior to the call of the first committee, members of the public may speak and on agenda items only. Individuals may email the Clerk of the Legislature at LegPublicComment@nassaucountyny.gov to have comment included in the record of the Legislative meeting. The Nassau County Legislature provides accessibility and reasonable accommodation to its public meetings for the attendance and participation of individuals with disabilities. Anyone in need of assistance should contact the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature at 516.571.4252, the Nassau County Office for the Physically Challenged at 516.227.7101 or TDD Telephone 516.227.8989. The Legislature streams every meeting live at http://www.NassauCountyNY.gov/agencies/Legis/index.html.

**NASSAU COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A
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Notice of formation of Jadestone Fortune LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/06/2026. Office location: Nassau County. SSNY designated as an agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Feona Yeung: 118 Secatogue Ave, Farmingdale NY 11735. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

**NASSAU COUNTY
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Notice of formation of LexLoo, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/06/2026. Office location: Nassau County. SSNY designated as an agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Brandon Goldberg: 739 Wildwood Road West Hempstead, NY, 11552. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**

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Belmont at the Big A

Analysis by Vic Cangialosi

Lock of the Day
Rare Society (7th)
Lock Record: 10 for 18 (55%)
Meet Record: 60/210 $286.34

1 6 fur(T); $55,000; mdn clm($55,000); 3up

Father's Day at the Big A! Sunny, highs in the 80s on this first day of summer. In the opener...**OLIGARCH** ran 2nd twice in front of **TWO DUCKS** who was 3rd both times. They were separated by 4 1/2 lengths last out. **HAFU** makes turf debut for Rice after going 0 for 3 on dirt. Santana on the wildcard.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	Hafu(L),121	R Santana, Jr	2-3-2	Rice	4-1
2	Bourbon Hangover(L),121	H Harkie	7-x-x	Keithan	20-1
3	Two Ducks(L),121	K Carmouche	3-3-5	C Martin	3-1
4	Daw Samaa(L),126	S Gonzalez	5-4-6	Kantarmaci	5-1
5	No Filter(L),126	R Silvera	3-4-4	Englehart	8-1
6	Nod to Tran(L),126	R Gutierrez	7-5-10	DiPrima	30-1
7	Oligarch(L),126	J Castellano	2-2-11	Pregman	6-5

2 1 3/8 miles(T); $90,000; alw; 4up(f)

Going long on the lawn to backend the double. **RELAXX** French filly made US/seasonal debut in a shorter 150k and raced evenly, 5th of 8. Rates edge, getting more ground 2nd off the layoff. Prat rides for Clement; 1st time lasix.. **SAILAWAY** MTO. Has 3 wins over the wet. **LADY FIREFOOT** is 1 for 12 over the last 2 years but only 2 lengths shy in latest. The win was earned at this marathon distance. **SNIPSNIPPITYSNIP** (Churchill, this distance) and **PROTECTIVE CUSTODY** (Aqueduct, 1 1/8 miles) enter off victories.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	Sol d'Oro(L),123	K Carmouche	8-1-1	Sharp	9-2
2	Massarat(L),121	M Franco	4-8-1	Walsh	4-1
3	Relaxx(FR)(M),121	F Prat	5-x-x	Clement	5-2
4	Snipsnippitysnip(L),123	D Davis	1-5-1	Walsh	5-1
5	Protective Custody(L),123	J Lezcano	1-3-4	McGaughey III	7-2
6	Lady Firefoot(L),121	C Elliott	4-5-6	Giddings	4-1
7	Sailaway(L),123	R Santana, Jr	2-1-6	Rodriguez	7-5

3 1 mile; $28,000; clm($10,000); 4up(f)

Non-threatening 7th, last 2 starts for **MISS LAO**, latest at Finger Lakes. Ran 2nd at this lower level/longer distance here on New Years Day. Rider change to Gutierrez. **AH CA IRA** ran to her odds (47-1) racing for 35k. Winner going a mile in March. Better at this reduced height. **MY FIRST LOVE** is 1 for 16 over the last 2 years after turning in 2nd, then 4th with comparable company. Gets a piece stretching to favorite distance.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	Ah Ca Ira(L),123	C Elliott	6-4-1	Dixon	2-1
2	Santagata(L),121	R Santana, Jr	5-6-5	Bhigroog	8-1
3	Luna Moth(L),121	R Silvera	5-3-4	Friedman	10-1
4	My First Love(L),121	D Davis	4-2-4	Miceli	3-1
5	Whistler's Style(L),123	C Gonzalez	4-6-1	Ibrahim	9-2
6	Floge(L),123	S Gonzalez	7-7-4	Arriaga	12-1
7	Miss Lao(L),121	R Gutierrez	7-7-2	Sells	7-2

4 1 1/16 miles(T); $80,000; mdn; 3up

Couple of promising starts for **OHONTES OWN**. Reported home 3rd, then 2nd at this distance. Moves forward for Morley. **BARGAIN PURCHASE** runs for Chad Brown if we're off turf. **LOBBYIST** rallied, lost by a nose at 35-1 racing this distance at the Spa. Shorter price today. **TWIRLING LAD** was 3rd behind Ohontes Own.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	Twirling Lad(L),120	E Zayas	3-9-5	De Paz	4-1
2	Emotionlyavailble(L),120	M Franco	5-x-x	Cox	7-2
3	High Leverage(L),120	J Castellano	2-5-2	Brion	6-1
4	Zip for Rick(L),120	D Rivera	5-7-6	Legall	30-1
5	Sleep Walking(L),126	K Carmouche	7-3-x	Donk	9-2
6	Lobbyist(L),120	D Davis	2-7-3	Donk	8-1
7	Ohonte's Own(L),120	J Rodriguez	2-3-x	Morley	8-5
8	Bargain Purchase(L),120	M Franco	7-x-x	C Brown	3-1

5 5 1/2 fur; $85,000; mdn; 2YO(f)

Two-year-old fillies. 2nd start for **FIRST SITE**. Raced evenly for 3rd in her opener. Wins at 2nd asking getting another 1/16. **MITOLEON DYNAMITE** (Green/Elliott/Mitole), **MS LIU** (Antonucci/Zayas/Greatest Honour) and **MISS MAAM** (Green/Davis/Mo Donegal) are live first time starters.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	Miss Ma'am,123	D Davis	x-x-x	Green	9-2
2	First Site,123	J Castellano	3-x-x	A Dutrow	8-5
3	So Angelina,123	D Rivera	7-x-x	Arriaga	12-1
4	Ms Liu,123	E Zayas	x-x-x	Antonucci	6-1
5	Mitoleon Dynamite,123	C Elliott	x-x-x	Green	7-2
6	My Hometown Gal,123	J Rodriguez	x-x-x	Gorham	6-1
7	Bandmaster,123	J Lezcano	x-x-x	Barrera III	12-1
8	Nashoba,123	O Hrndz Mreno	5-x-x	Barrera III	15-1

6 1 mile; $70,000; alw; 3up(f)

A gate-to-wire winner at this distance, **MOON GATE** moves higher off the Friedman claim. Value's up; Silvera up. **ADRIAN** The M/L fave is 1 for 12 after running evenly for 3rd. Rice gives her another furlong; gets Franco to ride. Rice enters **SARIR** as well. Moved lower and won by open lengths. Her 2nd victory from 20 starts. Repeat chance. And **BEIRA** won from off the pace at Churchill. Like top pick she moves higher. Prat rides for Dutrow.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	Adrian(L),126	M Franco	3-4-2	Rice	2-1
2	Beira(L),126	F Prat	1-3-2	R Dutrow	3-1
3	Sarir(L),126	J Lezcano	1-5-6	Rice	5-2
4	Racing Colors(L),126	H Harkie	10-5-3	Follett	10-1
5	Moon Gate(L),126	R Silvera	1-3-2	Friedman	8-1
6	Higher Force(L),126	C Elliott	4-7-4	Rodriguez	4-1

7 7 fur; $37,000; clm($25,000); 3up(f)

Rice over Rice. **RARE SOCIETY** lost by a game head at this distance. Linda gets Davis to seal the deal. **UNDERGRAD** dueled on the lead and tired. Rice shaves a furlong. **NIGHTSCOPE** was a wide 5th behind **MOONLIGHT GAL** who was 2nd. Nightscope is 1 for 3. Moonlight Gal is 1 for 9.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	Tree House(L),126	C Elliott	5-1-6	Giddings	6-1
2	Will of a Womanne(L),126	E Zayas	3-5-1	Ferraro	8-1
3	Nightscope(L),121	J Lezcano	5-1-2	Ferraro	4-1
4	Rare Society(L),126	D Davis	2-3-8	Rice	8-5
5	Moonlight Gal(L),126	R Santana, Jr	2-7-4	Englehart	8-1
6	Undergrad(L),126	R Silvera	6-6-1	Rice	7-2
7	Dat Dares Right(L),126	K Davis	7-4-5	Keithan	20-1
8	Better With Vino(L),121	J Castellano	4-5-7	Margotta	12-1

8 1 mile(T); $83,000; alw; 3up(f)

It's **MOMMYS TURN**. Makes her 4YO debut for Chad Brown after winning 2 of 3, including a stake on the grass last year. **SWEETEST PRINCESS** Close 2nd with similar. Choice if we're off turf. **NONNA LYNNE** makes seasonal debut for Brown as well. 2 for 5 last year. Took 2nd in a NY Stallion Stake at this distance. And **SAIL WITH THE WIND** returns after winning in November. Ran 3rd behind Nonna Lynne previously.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	Saratoga Snow(L),126	K Carmouche	2-5-1	Dini	6-1
2	Sweet Montreal(L),120	C Elliott	8-4-5	Ryerson	12-1
3	Mommy's Turn(L),126	J Lezcano	1-2-1	C Brown	2-1
4	Sail With the Wind(L),126	F Prat	1-4-3	Englehart	5-1
5	Downtown Channel(L),126	R Santana, Jr	4-1-1	De Paz	7-2
6	Can't Fool Me(L),126	R Silvera	4-5-2	Abreu	8-1
7	Nonna Lynne(L),126	M Franco	2-1-2	C Brown	7-2
8	Sweetest Princess(L),126	J Lezcano	2-6-7	Rice	5-2

9 6 fur(T); $80,000; mdn; 3up(f)

The **DAYLIGHT DREAMER** in the weekender. Made turf debut in April and lost by thismuch. **ISLAND CHARM** MTO. **APERITIF** was 5th behind top pick but 2nd next out. **VEKOMAS PLEASURE** (Weaver/Franco/Vekoma) makes career debut.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	Ultra Cameo(L),126	C Elliott	6-9-2	Hawthorne	15-1
2	Aperitif(L),126	J Rodriguez	2-5-8	Merryman	9-2
3	Vekomas Pleasure(M),121	M Franco	x-x-x	Weaver	6-1
4	Babcie(M),121	J Lezcano	x-x-x	Giddings	20-1
5	Midtown Mischief(M),121	R Santana, Jr	3-x-x	Maker	5-1
6	Galway Gurl(M),121	F Villa Pino	x-x-x	Ferraro	12-1
7	Blue Authenticity(L),121	J Castellano	2-x-x	B Brown	7-2
8	Moonlight Ready(L),126	D Rivera	5-x-x	Baker	20-1
9	Jayme's Turn(L),121	R Silvera	9-x-x	Rice	20-1
10	Bernina Express(L),121	E Zayas	8-8-7	De Paz	15-1
11	Daylight Dreamer(L),121	K Carmouche	2-7-x	Englehart	4-1
12	Okay Annie(M),121	D Davis	x-x-x	Duggan	20-1
13	Island Charm(L),121	M Franco	2-7-3	Kantarmaci	3-1

PLAY OF THE DAY

Spirit Of New York (6-5) had every chance to go by in the stretch but finished third in the 3-way win photo. Kings Landyn (20-1) ran third as well. Loss of -$33.24.

Two more to finish the week. Play $4 across the board on Moon Gate in Race 6. Bet $30 to win on Rare Society in Race 7 and a $4 double using both. —*Vic Cangialosi*

Aqueduct Results

FIRST-6 fur; $90,000; alc opt cl($80,000); 4up
5 Keewaydn (Frnco) 17.04 5.58 3.90
6 Shape Note (Davis) 2.36 2.10
4 War Stride (Rodriguez) 6.00
Scr: Commuted
● $1 Exacta (5-6) $16.52 ● $0.1 Superfecta (5-6-4-3) $24.94 ● $0.5 Trifecta (5-6-4) $51.69

SECOND-6 fur; $40,000; clm($16,000); 4up
2 Knshn Brdg (Frnc) 25.94 9.06 3.32
1 Ryadh Moon (Crmouche) 3.62 2.46
5 Burninhunkoflove (Rodriguez) 2.28
● $1 Daily Double (5-2) $60.84 ● $1 Exacta (2-1) $31.03 ● $1 Quinella (1-2) $12.30 ● $0.1 Superfecta (2-1-5-6) $19.71 ● $0.5 Trifecta (2-1-5) $39.29

THIRD-1 mile; $83,000; alw; 3up
2 Just fr Luck (Lzcn) 13.82 4.86 3.38
4 Iron Max (Rodriguez) 2.96 2.52
1 Mo Trump (Elliott) 4.50
Scr: Three B's, Shipsational, Beary Funny, Jackson Heights
● $1 Pick 3 (5-2-2) $470.43 ● $1 Daily Double (2-2) $83.80 ● $1 Exacta (2-4) $18.43 ● $0.1 Superfecta (2-4-1-3) $38.73 ● $0.5 Trifecta (2-4-1) $68.83

FOURTH-6 fur; $48,000; cl($50,0); 3up (f&m)
5 Fv Dozn Rss (Dvs) 4.12 2.74 2.26
10 My Ll Army Grl (Lezcno) 3.18 2.96
2 You Know Better (Civaci) 4.58
Scr: My Ballerina, Sonoranite
● $1 Pick 3 (2-2-5) $202.41 ● $1 Daily Double (2-5) $20.96 ● $1 Exacta (5-10) $6.62 ● $1 Quinella (5-10) $3.83 ● $0.1 Superfecta (5-10-2-4) $66.49 ● $0.5 Trifecta (5-10-2) $18.31

Exacta picked by Vic C

FIFTH-7 fur; $60,000; alw; 3up (f&m)
2 Bsbll Ldy (Crmch) 8.38 5.22 3.60
4 A. P. Slingshot (Franco) 5.72 3.20
1 Timia (Rodriguez) 3.06
● $1 Pick 3 (2-5-2) $119.43 ● $0.5 Pick 4 (2-2-1/5/9-2) $567.64 ● $0.5 Pick 5 (5-2-2-1/5/9-2) $4943.21 ● $1 Daily Double (5-2) $11.51 ● $1 Exacta (2-4) $25.78 ● $0.1 Superfecta (2-4-1-7) $47.88 ● $0.5 Trifecta (2-4-1) $40.70

Double picked by Vic C

SIXTH-1 1/16 mile; $45,000; cl($20,0); 4up
1 Shrd Succss (Zys) 32.98 15.30 6.06
2 Bar Fourteen (Elliott) 5.08 3.18
7 Late Call (Carmouche) 2.70
Scr: Expensive Cut, Barnstorming, Register, Fever Night
● $1 Pick 3 (5-2-1) $252.17 ● $1 Daily Double (2-1) $76.31 ● $1 Exacta (1-2) $59.50 ● $0.1 Superfecta (1-2-7-5) $79.14 ● $0.5 Trifecta (1-2-7) $86.24

SEVENTH-6 fur; $150,000; NYSS; 3YO
9 Nssn Pgn (Crmch) 21.58 10.34 3.98
6 Illmatic (Rodriguez) 4.72 2.76
4 Spirit of New York (Franco) 2.30
Scr: Dancingwithdestiny, Daisy Doo, Sculcos Folly, Miami Kaz
● $1 Pick 3 (2-1-9) $1010.90 ● $0.5 Pick 4 (1/5/9-2-1-9) $2333.27 ● $0.5 Pick 5 (2-1/5/9-2-1-9) $24687.11 ● $1 Daily Double (1-9) $245.59 ● $1 Exacta (9-6) $65.51 ● $0.1 Superfecta (9-6-4-7) $50.85 ● $0.5 Trifecta (9-6-4) $79.89

EIGHTH-7 fur; $41,000; mdn cl($35,0); 3up
4 Dnner Royl (Frnco) 8.74 5.24 4.06
6 Inonit (Rodriguez) 4.10 3.08
8 Kings Landyn (Gutierrez) 6.38
Scr: Tony Hooks
● $1 Pick 3 (1-9-4) $1613.44 ● $1 Daily Double (9-4) $107.09 ● $1 Exacta (4-6) $14.97 ● $0.1 Superfecta (4-6-8-7) $131.64 ● $0.5 Trifecta (4-6-8) $153.16

NINTH-7 fur; $29,500; wcl($15,000); 3up
10 Tpwrts Tmpr (Frnc) 8.04 3.78 3.14
3 Red Miller (Davis) 5.00 3.66
2 Shellac (Lezcano) 2.60
● $1 Grand Slam (1/2/7-4/6/9-4/6/8-10) $23.02 ● $1 Pick 3 (9-4-10) $641.48 ● $1 Daily Double (4-10) $21.53 ● $1 Exacta (10-3) $14.64 ● $0.1 Superfecta (10-3-2-1) $51.97 ● $0.5 Trifecta (10-3-2) $25.00

TENTH-6 fur; $48,000; md cl($50,0); 3upf
8 Tuthlltown (Zays) 6.70 3.48 3.16
3 Grden of Grce (Rodrguz) 3.68 2.76
9 Waitin'onapromise (Lezcano) 5.04
Scr: Pismo Beach
● $1 Pick 6 (2-1-9-4-10-7/8) $2636.23 ● $1 Pick 3 (4-10-8) $69.03 ● $0.5 Pick 4 (9-4-10-7/8) $844.38 ● $0.5 Pick 5 (1-9-4-10-7/8) $16993.90 ● $1 Daily Double (10-8) $15.16 ● $1 Exacta (8-3) $9.62 ● $0.1 Superfecta (8-3-9-2) $89.15 ● $0.5 Trifecta (8-3-9) $43.10

MLS

EAST	W	L	D	Pts	GF	GA
Nashville	10	1	3	33	31	11
Inter Miami CF	9	2	4	31	39	28
Chicago	8	4	2	26	27	16
New England	8	5	1	25	22	18
Red Bulls	6	5	4	22	25	32
Charlotte FC	6	6	3	21	24	23
Cincinnati	5	5	5	20	36	37
NYCFC	5	6	4	19	25	21
D.C. United	4	5	6	18	21	25
Columbus	4	7	4	16	21	23
CF Montréal	4	8	2	14	22	31
Orlando City	4	9	2	14	23	44
Toronto FC	3	6	5	14	22	29
Atlanta	3	9	2	11	14	23
Philadelphia	1	10	4	7	18	30
WEST	**W**	**L**	**D**	**Pts**	**GF**	**GA**
Vancouver	10	2	2	32	34	12
San Jose	10	3	2	32	34	15
Real Salt Lake	8	4	2	26	26	19
FC Dallas	7	4	4	25	30	22
Los Angeles FC	7	5	3	24	24	17
Seattle FC	7	3	3	24	17	11
Houston	7	6	1	22	19	23
Minn. United	6	5	4	22	18	22
LA Galaxy	5	5	5	20	22	22
San Diego FC	4	6	5	17	30	27
Colorado	5	9	1	16	25	24
St Louis City	4	6	4	16	16	20
Portland	4	8	2	14	22	28
Austin FC	3	7	5	14	19	31
Sporting K.C.	3	9	2	11	14	36

Note: 3 pts. for win, 1 for tie

Thursday, July 16
Toronto FC at CF Montréal, 7:30pm
Vancouver at Chicago, 8:30pm
Sporting K.C. at St Louis City, 8:30pm
Portland at Seattle FC, 10:30pm

Friday, July 17
Atlanta United at Nashville SC, 8pm
LAFC at LA Galaxy, 10:45pm

NWSL

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
San Diego	8	4	1	25	19	13
Utah Royals FC	7	2	3	24	18	10
Portland	7	3	3	24	20	14
Washington	6	2	3	21	18	9
Gotham FC	6	2	3	21	12	5
Kansas City	7	5	0	21	18	17
North Carolina	5	3	3	18	17	13
Orlando	5	5	2	17	18	17
Denver Summit FC	4	4	3	15	17	13
Seattle	4	5	2	14	10	13
Houston	4	6	2	14	14	19
Angel City	4	6	1	13	16	14
Bay FC	3	6	2	11	9	17
Boston Legacy FC	2	7	3	9	11	19
Chicago	3	9	0	9	5	24
Louisville	2	8	1	7	15	20

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Friday, July 3
Houston at Washington, 8pm
Kansas City at Denver Summit FC, 9:30pm
Orlando at Angel City, 10pm
Saturday, July 4
North Carolina at Seattle, 6:30pm
San Diego at **Gotham FC**, 8:45pm
Sunday, July 5
Boston Legacy at Bay FC, Noon
Chicago Stars at Utah Royals, 5pm
Portland Thorns at Racing Louisville, 7pm
Friday, July 10
Orlando Pride at Kansas City, 8pm
Racing Louisville at Bay FC, 8pm
Boston Legacy at Chicago Stars, 8pm
Utah Royals at **Gotham FC**, 10pm

AL Standings

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Yankees	46	29	.613	—	—	7-3	L-1	22-14	24-15
Tampa Bay	42	31	.575	3	+6	4-6	L-1	25-10	17-21
Toronto	38	39	.494	9	—	6-4	W-1	21-18	17-21
Baltimore	36	42	.462	11½	2½	5-5	W-1	22-19	14-23
Boston	31	43	.419	14½	5½	4-6	W-2	12-25	19-18

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Cleveland	41	36	.532	—	—	4-6	W-1	19-17	22-19
Chicago	39	36	.520	1	+2	5-5	L-2	24-12	15-24
Minnesota	37	41	.474	4½	1½	7-3	W-1	20-19	17-22
Detroit	32	44	.421	8½	5½	5-5	W-2	20-16	12-28
Kansas City	32	45	.416	9	6	4-6	W-3	19-21	13-24

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Seattle	39	39	.500	—	—	3-7	L-2	21-19	18-20
Athletics	38	39	.494	½	—	6-4	L-1	18-22	20-17
Texas	36	40	.474	2	1½	4-6	L-1	18-18	18-22
Houston	36	42	.462	3	2½	5-5	L-1	19-21	17-21
Los Angeles	31	47	.397	8	7½	5-5	W-1	17-20	14-27

***WGB:** Games behind third-place team in wild-card race

Saturday

Cincinnati 10, **Yankees** 2
Detroit 4, White Sox 1
Toronto 8, Cubs 6
Washington 4, Tampa Bay 3
San Diego 6, Texas 4, 10 inn.
Cleveland 8, Houston 1
Minnesota at Arizona, (n)
Boston 5, Seattle 1
Baltimore 3, L.A. Dodgers 2
L.A. Angels 7, Athletics 0

Sunday

Cincinnati at **Yankees**, 1:35
White Sox at Detroit, 1:40
Washington at Tampa Bay, 1:40
Cleveland at Houston, 2:10
St. Louis at Kansas City, 2:10
Toronto at Cubs, 2:20
San Diego at Texas, 2:35
Minnesota at Arizona, 3:15
L.A. Angels at Athletics, 4:05
Baltimore at L.A. Dodgers, 4:10
Boston at Seattle, 4:10

Monday

Yankees at Detroit, 6:10
Kansas City at Tampa Bay, 6:40
Texas at Miami, 6:40
Houston at Toronto, 7:07
Cleveland at White Sox, 7:40
L.A. Dodgers at Minnesota, 7:40
Boston at Colorado, 8:40
Baltimore at L.A. Angels, 9:38

NL Standings

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Atlanta	48	27	.640	—	—	4-6	W-2	24-13	24-14
Philadelphia	41	35	.539	7½	+1½	5-5	W-1	22-19	19-16
Washington	40	37	.519	9	—	6-4	W-1	16-22	24-15
Miami	39	38	.506	10	1	7-3	W-3	25-16	14-22
Mets	34	42	.447	14½	5½	5-5	L-1	18-18	16-24

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Milwaukee	45	29	.608	—	—	4-6	L-3	25-15	20-14
St. Louis	40	34	.541	5	+1½	4-6	L-3	21-17	19-17
Chicago	40	37	.519	6½	—	6-4	L-1	23-17	17-20
Pittsburgh	38	39	.494	8½	2	4-6	L-2	20-19	18-20
Cincinnati	36	39	.480	9½	3	5-5	W-1	19-19	17-20

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Los Angeles	49	28	.636	—	—	6-4	L-1	26-13	23-15
San Diego	39	36	.520	9	—	5-5	W-1	19-19	20-17
Arizona	39	37	.513	9½	½	5-5	L-1	24-16	15-21
San Francisco	31	45	.408	17½	8½	4-6	L-2	14-20	17-25
Colorado	30	47	.390	19	10	5-5	W-2	16-20	14-27

***WGB:** Games behind third-place team in wild-card race

Saturday

Cincinnati 10, **Yankees** 2
Philadelphia 15, **Mets** 3
Toronto 8, Cubs 6
Atlanta 4, Milwaukee 3
Washington 4, Tampa Bay 3
San Diego 6, Texas 4, 10 inn.
Miami 6, San Francisco 3
Minnesota at Arizona, (n)
Colorado 2, Pittsburgh 1
Baltimore 3, L.A. Dodgers 2

Sunday

Cincinnati at **Yankees**, 1:35
Mets at Philadelphia, 7:20
Milwaukee at Atlanta, 1:35
San Francisco at Miami, 1:40
Washington at Tampa Bay, 1:40
St. Louis at Kansas City, 2:10
Toronto at Cubs, 2:20
San Diego at Texas, 2:35
Pittsburgh at Colorado, 3:10
Minnesota at Arizona, 3:15
Baltimore at L.A. Dodgers, 4:10

Monday

Cubs at **Mets**, 7:10
Texas at Miami, 6:40
Philadelphia at Washington, 6:45
Milwaukee at Cincinnati, 7:10
L.A. Dodgers at Minnesota, 7:40
Arizona at St. Louis, 7:45
Boston at Colorado, 8:40
Atlanta at San Diego, 10:10

Reds 10, Yankees 2

Cincinnati	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Dunn cf	5	3	2	0	1	1	.282
Bleday lf	5	1	1	0	0	2	.259
Stewart 3b	4	1	2	6	0	1	.252
Lowe dh	3	1	2	0	1	1	.262
Myers ph-dh	1	0	1	1	0	0	.262
Steer 1b	5	1	1	3	0	2	.240
Marte rf	4	0	1	0	1	1	.209
McLain ss	5	0	1	0	0	2	.204
Trevino c	5	1	0	0	0	0	.146
Arroyo 2b	5	2	4	0	0	0	.255
Totals	42	10	15	10	3	10	

Yankees	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Rice 1b	5	0	0	0	0	2	.288
Rosario 3b	3	0	0	0	1	0	.245
Escarra c	1	0	1	0	0	0	.188
Goldschmidt dh	5	1	1	1	0	1	.291
Bellinger cf-lf	4	1	2	0	0	2	.276
Domínguez rf	3	0	2	0	0	0	.241
Caballero lf-3b	3	0	0	1	1	1	.261
Chisholm 2b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.226
Volpe ss	3	0	1	0	1	0	.267
Sánchez c	2	0	1	0	0	0	.313
Jones ph-cf	2	0	0	0	0	1	.226
Totals	35	2	8	2	3	8	

Cincinnati	002 040 040 —	10	15	3
Yankees	100 000 010 —	2	8	1

E: Trevino (3), McLain (3), Arroyo (2), Rice (3). **LOB:** Cincinnati 9, New York 10. **2B:** Lowe (11), Arroyo (2), Stewart 2 (16), Marte (3), Bleday (11), Myers (5). **HR:** Steer (12), off Warren; Goldschmidt (12), off Abbott. **RBIs:** Stewart 6 (53), Steer 3 (31), Myers (13), Goldschmidt (37), Caballero (26). **SB:** Caballero (16), Volpe (6), Domínguez (1). **SF:** Stewart. **Runners left in scoring position:** Cincinnati 6 (Bleday, Steer, McLain, Lowe, Trevino, Dunn); New York 7 (Volpe 2, Goldschmidt 3, Caballero, Rosario). **RISP:** Cincinnati 5 for 16; New York 0 for 13.

Cincinnati	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Abbott, W, 5-4	5.0	5	1	1	3	6	97	3.83
Antone	2.0	0	0	0	0	1	23	2.75
Burke	1.0	2	1	1	0	0	13	3.00
Petty	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	23	4.41

Yankees	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Warren, L, 7-2	5.2	8	6	2	2	8	90	3.45
Hill	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	5	4.50
Bird	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	15	4.88
Yarbrough	1.0	5	4	4	0	2	29	4.28
Schuemann	1.0	1	0	0	1	0	14	0.00

T: 2:53. **A:** 46,089 (47,309).

Nationals 4, Rays 3

Washington	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Wood dh-rf	5	0	1	0	0	0	.272
Mead 3b	4	0	1	0	0	2	.232
Chaparro 1b	3	0	1	1	0	1	.188
García ph-1b	1	0	0	0	0	1	.264
Abrams ss	4	1	1	1	0	2	.283
Crews rf-cf	4	2	2	1	0	0	.198
Lile lf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.252
Young cf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.228
Lord p-p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---
Vivas ph	1	0	1	0	0	0	.250
Beeter p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---
Nuñez 2b	4	0	2	1	0	1	.230
Ruiz c	4	1	1	0	0	1	.280
Totals	36	4	10	4	0	8	

Tampa Bay	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Díaz dh	4	1	2	1	1	2	.322
DeLuca pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	.268
Aranda 1b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.275
Mullins cf	5	0	1	0	0	4	.199
Caminero 3b	3	1	3	1	1	0	.284
Palacios 2b	1	0	0	0	1	0	.235
Williamson ph-2b	3	0	0	0	0	2	.244
Simpson lf	4	0	2	1	0	0	.262
Mesa rf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.174
Feduccia c	0	0	0	0	1	0	.247
Fortes ph-c	3	0	0	0	0	0	.256
Walls ss	2	1	1	0	2	1	.218
Totals	33	3	10	3	6	10	

Washington	020 010 001 —	4	10	0
Tampa Bay	101 000 001 —	3	10	0

2B: Nuñez (4), Wood (18), Walls (7). **HR:** Abrams (16), off Seymour; Crews (5), off Booser. **RBIs:** Abrams (56), Nuñez (24), Chaparro (5), Crews (15), Caminero (34), Simpson (15), Díaz (48). **SB:** Simpson (15), Walls 2 (12), DeLuca (7). **SF:** Caminero. **S:** Mullins. **RISP:** Washington 1 for 11; Tampa Bay 3 for 13. **DP:** Washington 2 (Abrams, Nuñez, Chaparro; Abrams, Nuñez, Chaparro).

Washington	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Cavalli	2.2	6	2	2	3	1	68	4.07
Parker, W, 3-3	2.1	1	0	0	1	2	32	5.70
Lord, H, 6	3.0	2	0	0	0	5	36	2.29
Beeter, S, 5-7	1.0	1	1	1	2	2	21	3.63

Tampa Bay	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Seymour, L, 3-1	5.0	7	3	3	0	4	81	4.98
Kimbrel	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	11	5.50
Sulser	2.0	0	0	0	0	4	25	5.76
Booser	1.0	3	1	1	0	0	24	1.12

T: 2:58. **A:** 20,996 (25,025).

Phillies 15, Mets 3

Mets	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Benge cf-rf	4	1	1	2	0	2	.257
Bichette 3b	3	0	1	0	0	0	.251
Baty ph-3b-ss	1	0	0	0	0	0	.221
Soto lf	3	0	1	0	0	0	.301
Melendez lf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.191
Semien 2b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.222
Wagaman rf-3b	3	0	0	0	1	0	.250
Alvarez dh	3	0	1	0	0	0	.257
Ewing cf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.258
Vientos 1b	4	2	2	1	0	2	.223
Torrens c	4	0	1	0	0	1	.219
Short ss-p	4	0	1	0	0	3	.159
Totals	35	3	8	3	1	8	

Philadelphia	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Turner ss	5	3	2	1	0	0	.226
Schwarber dh	5	4	4	6	0	0	.254
Harper 1b	5	2	4	3	0	0	.259
Stubbs 1b	0	0	0	0	0	0	.167
Marsh lf	5	1	1	0	0	1	.315
Bohm 3b	5	1	1	0	0	0	.231
Stott 2b	5	1	1	1	0	0	.236
Realmuto c	4	2	2	2	0	2	.209
Rincones rf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.105
Crawford cf	3	1	2	1	1	1	.244
Totals	41	15	17	14	1	6	

Mets	000 100 200 —	3	8	1
Philadelphia	128 020 20x —	15	17	0

E: Semien (4). **LOB:** New York 6, Philadelphia 3. **2B:** Realmuto 2 (6), Crawford (10), Harper (13), Stott (14). **3B:** Harper (2). **HR:** Vientos (9), off Sánchez; Benge (8), off Lazar; Harper (16), off Peralta; Schwarber (26), off Peralta; Schwarber (27), off Pérez; Schwarber (28), off Myers. **RBIs:** Vientos (32), Benge 2 (28), Harper 3 (43), Realmuto 2 (19), Crawford (16), Schwarber 6 (49), Stott (36), Turner (22). **RISP:** New York 0 for 3; Philadelphia 7 for 12.

Met	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Peralta, L, 5-6	2.2	10	10	10	1	2	80	4.83
Pérez	2.0	4	3	3	0	3	32	5.81
Myers	2.1	3	2	2	0	1	41	5.84
Short	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0.00

Philadelphia	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Sánchez, W, 9-3	6.0	5	1	1	1	5	91	1.80
Lazar	2.0	2	2	2	0	1	26	4.50
Duran	1.0	1	0	0	0	2	17	1.82

T: 2:46. **A:** 43,402 (42,901).

Padres 6, Rangers 4, 10 inn.

San Diego	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Tatis 2b	5	3	2	0	0	2	.282
Taylor lf-rf	3	2	1	0	1	1	.372
Machado 3b	5	1	2	5	0	0	.178
Bogaerts ss	4	0	1	0	1	1	.224
Merrill cf	5	0	3	1	0	0	.216
France 1b	4	0	0	0	1	1	.252
Solak dh	2	0	0	0	1	0	.143
Wagner ph-dh	1	0	0	0	0	0	.318
Bowen rf	2	0	0	0	0	1	.111
Sheets ph-lf	2	0	0	0	0	0	.228
Hunt c	3	0	0	0	0	3	.000
Durán ph-c	1	0	0	0	0	0	.146
Totals	37	6	9	6	4	9	

Texas	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Pederson dh	5	0	0	0	0	2	.231
Jung 3b	5	1	2	0	0	3	.305
Langford cf	4	0	2	2	1	1	.265
Nimmo rf	5	0	2	0	0	2	.261
Duran ss	4	0	0	0	0	2	.275
Kelenic lf	3	1	1	0	0	2	.228
Foscue ph-2b	1	0	0	0	0	1	.267
Burger 1b	3	1	1	2	0	2	.249
Lopez 2b	3	0	1	0	0	0	.283
Freeman ph-lf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.235
Higashioka c	4	0	0	0	0	2	.228
Díaz c	0	1	0	0	0	0	.295
Totals	38	4	9	4	1	17	

San Diego	001 000 020 3 —	6	9	1
Texas	000 001 200 1 —	4	9	1

E: Tatis (3), Higashioka (6). **LOB:** San Diego 8, Texas 7. **2B:** Tatis 2 (13), Machado (12), Jung (17), Langford (7). **HR:** Machado (13), off Ross; Burger (13), off Adam. **RBIs:** Machado 5 (41), Merrill (31), Langford 2 (13), Burger 2 (46). **SB:** Merrill 2 (14). **S:** Taylor.**RISP:** San Diego 3 for 11; Texas 2 for 8. **DP:** Texas 1 (Duran, Lopez, Burger).

San Diego	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Buehler	5.1	5	1	1	1	7	87	3.96
Hart	0.2	0	0	0	0	1	10	4.29
Adam	1.0	2	2	2	0	2	28	2.54
Morejon, W, 6-1	2.0	1	0	0	0	5	35	3.69
Miller, S, 20-20	1.0	1	1	0	0	2	21	0.87

Texas	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Gore	6.0	5	1	1	2	6	95	4.07
Gray	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	15	3.55
Winn, H, 7	0.2	1	2	1	0	0	14	5.79
Alexander, BS, 2-3	0.1	1	0	0	1	0	9	2.97
Latz	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	13	1.51
Ross, L, 0-1	1.0	2	3	2	1	0	21	11.74

T: 3:09. **A:** 35,383 (40,000).

Tigers 4, White Sox 1

Chicago	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Antonacci 2b	2	1	2	1	1	0	.293
Vargas 3b-1b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.237
Benintendi dh	3	0	0	0	0	0	.237
Quero ph-dh	1	0	0	0	0	0	.185
C.Montgomery ss-3b	4	0	0	0	0	2	.224
Grichuk lf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.262
Gonzalez 1b	2	0	0	0	0	0	.182
Meidroth ph-ss	2	0	1	0	0	0	.275
Montgomery rf	3	0	1	0	1	0	.200
Peters cf	1	0	0	0	1	1	.283
Perez ph-cf	1	0	0	0	1	1	.333
Romo c	4	0	0	0	0	1	.144
Totals	31	1	4	1	4	7	

Detroit	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
McGonigle 3b	3	0	1	0	1	0	.282
Dingler dh	4	1	2	2	0	0	.267
Vierling cf-rf	3	0	0	0	1	2	.198
Greene lf	4	0	0	0	0	0	.287
Torkelson 1b	3	1	1	0	1	1	.203
Carpenter rf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.233
Jones ph	1	0	0	0	0	1	.138
Outman cf	2	1	2	1	0	0	.173
Lee 2b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.225
Rogers c	4	0	1	1	0	2	.154
McKinstry ss	2	1	0	0	2	1	.166
Totals	31	4	7	4	5	7	

Chicago	100 000 000 —	1	4	1
Detroit	000 012 10x —	4	7	1

E: B.Montgomery (1), Torkelson (2). **LOB:** Chicago 8, Detroit 8. **2B:** B.Montgomery (3), Torkelson (15). **HR:** Antonacci (4), off Melton; Dingler (17), off Richards. **RBIs:** Antonacci (19), Dingler 2 (53), Outman (5), Rogers (6). **SB:** Outman (5). **RISP:** Chicago 0 for 6; Detroit 3 for 10.

Chicago	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Newcomb	3.0	0	0	0	0	4	42	2.58
Davis	0.2	0	0	0	3	0	28	4.63
Rock, L, 0-1, BS, 0-1	2.1	5	3	2	2	1	47	3.24
Richards	1.0	1	1	1	0	1	16	4.15
Murphy	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	16	5.54

Detroit	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Melton, W, 4-0	6.0	1	1	1	3	5	84	2.56
Holton, H, 7	2.0	2	0	0	0	2	21	3.60
Jansen, S, 9-13	1.0	1	0	0	1	0	10	4.00

T: 2:17. **A:** 34,692 (41,083).

Blue Jays 8, Cubs 6

Toronto	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Springer dh	5	1	1	0	0	0	.223
Lukes rf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.306
Kirk ph	1	0	1	1	0	0	.200
Piñango pr-rf	0	1	0	0	0	0	.283
Guerrero 1b	4	2	2	1	0	0	.279
Valenzuela c	4	0	1	0	0	2	.261
Okamoto 3b	3	2	1	3	0	0	.229
Varsho cf	4	1	1	3	0	2	.256
Schneider 2b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.165
Giménez ss	2	0	1	0	0	1	.232
Clement ph-ss	2	0	0	0	0	0	.292
Straw lf	3	1	1	0	1	0	.242
Totals	35	8	9	8	1	6	

Chicago	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Crow-Armstrong cf	4	1	2	2	1	2	.286
Hoerner 2b	4	0	0	1	1	0	.235
Suzuki dh	4	0	1	0	1	1	.269
Busch 1b	4	0	1	0	1	0	.247
Bregman 3b	4	1	1	0	0	0	.250
Happ lf	4	1	1	0	1	1	.228
Shaw rf	5	1	1	3	0	3	.252
Amaya c	3	1	0	0	1	0	.225
Ramirez ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.270
Swanson ss	3	1	2	0	1	0	.183
Totals	36	6	9	6	7	7	

Toronto	000 000 350 —	8	9	2
Chicago	030 002 010 —	6	9	0

E: Clement (7), Varland (2). **LOB:** Toronto 2, Chicago 11. **2B:** Swanson (8). **HR:** Varsho (6), off Thornton; Okamoto (16), off Webb; Shaw (4), off Corbin; Crow-Armstrong (16), off Estrada. **RBIs:** Varsho 3 (20), Kirk (5), Guerrero (31), Okamoto 3 (45), Shaw 3 (19), Crow-Armstrong 2 (40), Hoerner (35). **RISP:** Toronto 4 for 7; Chicago 2 for 11. **DP:** Toronto 2 (Okamoto, Schneider, Guerrero; Guerrero, Clement, Guerrero); Chicago 1 (Swanson, Busch).

Toronto	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Corbin	3.2	6	3	3	3	4	101	4.73
Estrada	2.1	1	2	2	2	0	32	2.84
Hoffman, W, 5-4	1.0	0	0	0	1	1	22	5.13
Fluharty	0.0	2	1	1	1	0	11	3.94
Varland, S, 15-15	2.0	0	0	0	0	2	28	0.86

Chicago	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Rea	5.1	3	0	0	0	3	78	4.99
Rolison, H, 1	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.95
Thornton	0.2	2	3	3	0	1	13	3.15
Thielbar, H, 5	0.1	1	2	2	1	0	13	4.95
Webb, L, 1-2, BS, 2-6	0.2	3	3	3	0	2	27	3.90
Roberts	1.1	0	0	0	0	0	14	3.04

T: 3:12. **A:** 40,706 (41,363).

Braves 4, Brewers 3

Milwaukee	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Chourio lf	4	1	1	1	0	1	.304
Turang 2b	4	1	0	0	0	2	.260
Contreras c	4	0	2	0	0	0	.289
Sánchez dh	2	0	0	1	1	1	.222
Vaughn 1b	3	0	1	1	0	1	.352
Frelick pr-rf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.230
Perkins rf	2	0	1	0	0	0	.157
Bauers ph-1b	2	0	0	0	0	2	.267
Mitchell cf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.252
Pratt ss	4	1	2	0	0	0	.375
Ortiz 3b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.206
Totals	34	3	8	3	1	10	

Atlanta	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Dubón lf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.255
Baldwin dh	4	0	0	0	0	3	.286
Olson 1b	4	1	1	0	0	0	.273
Albies 2b	4	3	3	3	0	0	.284
Harris cf	3	0	1	0	0	1	.306
Riley 3b	3	0	0	1	0	1	.210
White rf	2	0	1	0	0	1	.228
Smith ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.287
Yastrzemski rf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.230
Bart c	3	0	0	0	0	0	.246
Mateo ss	2	0	0	0	0	1	.277
Tellez ph	1	0	0	0	0	1	.000
Kim ss	0	0	0	0	0	0	.085
Totals	31	4	6	4	0	9	

Milwaukee	000 002 100 —	3	8	0
Atlanta	000 010 102 —	4	6	1

One out when winning run scored. **LOB:** Milwaukee 6, Atlanta 2. **2B:** Harris (10). **HR:** Albies (11), off Harrison; Albies (12), off Ashby. **RBIs:** Sánchez (21), Vaughn (20), Chourio (29), Albies 3 (40), Riley (36). **SB:** Pratt (3). **SF:** Sánchez. **Runners left in scoring position:** Milwaukee 4 (Turang, Bauers, Ortiz, Pratt); Atlanta 1 (Smith). **RISP:** Milwaukee 2 for 8; Atlanta 0 for 2. **Runners moved up:** Chourio, Riley. **GIDP:** Sánchez. **DP:** Atlanta 1 (Mateo, Albies, Olson).

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Harrison	6.1	4	2	2	0	7	85	2.50
Uribe, H, 9	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	8	3.62
Megill, H, 7	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	8	4.00
Ashby, L, 10-1, BS, 0-3	0.1	2	2	2	0	1	14	3.18

Atlanta	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Sale	5.2	5	2	0	1	7	101	2.14
Fuentes	1.1	2	1	1	0	1	28	2.45
Karinchak	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	10	0.00
Lee, W, 3-0	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	11	1.08

T: 2:23. **A:** 40,156 (41,149).

Guardians 8, Astros 1

Cleveland	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Bazzana 2b	4	3	4	5	0	0	.274
Manzardo 1b	4	1	2	3	0	2	.238
Rocchio ss	4	0	0	0	0	0	.269
Hoskins dh	4	0	0	0	0	3	.175
Schneemann 3b	4	0	0	0	0	2	.218
Watson rf	4	0	0	0	0	3	.000
Kwan lf	3	1	0	0	0	0	.207
Bailey c	4	2	3	0	0	0	.182
Halpin cf	3	1	1	0	0	1	.158
Totals	34	8	10	8	0	11	

Houston	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Peña ss	3	0	0	0	0	2	.284
Delgado ph-ss	1	0	0	0	0	1	.375
Alvarez dh	3	0	0	0	0	0	.320
Trammell ph	1	0	0	0	0	1	.276
Walker 1b	2	0	0	0	1	1	.240
Loperfido lf	1	0	1	0	0	0	.250
Paredes 3b-1b	4	1	1	0	0	0	.238
Altuve 2b	4	0	2	0	0	1	.239
Diaz c	3	0	1	1	0	1	.243
Cam.Smith rf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.222
Meyers cf	3	0	0	0	0	3	.210
Matthews lf-3b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.206
Totals	31	1	5	1	1	11	

Cleveland	102 030 200 —	8	10	0
Houston	010 000 000 —	1	5	0

LOB: Cleveland 1, Houston 4. **HR:** Bazzana 2 (7), off Arrighetti; Manzardo (9), off Arrighetti. **RBIs:** Bazzana 5 (23), Manzardo 3 (26), Diaz (15). **S:** Halpin. **RISP:** Cleveland 3 for 4; Houston 1 for 5. **DP:** Houston 1 (Peña).

Cleveland	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Cantillo, W, 6-3	8.0	4	1	1	1	9	98	4.05
Festa	1.0	1	0	0	0	2	15	4.22

Houston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Arrighetti, L, 7-3	6.0	6	6	6	0	8	90	3.13
Pearson	1.0	4	2	2	0	0	24	4.22
Blubaugh	1.0	0	0	0	0	3	16	3.78
Abreu	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	11	6.39

T: 2:25. **A:** 32,678 (41,000).

Marlins 6, Giants 3

San Francisco	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Arraez 2b	3	0	1	0	2	0	.321
Eldridge dh	4	0	1	0	1	3	.306
Chapman 3b	5	0	0	0	0	3	.245
Devers 1b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.241
Lee rf	4	2	2	0	0	0	.331
Adames ss	4	0	0	0	0	1	.226
Schmitt lf	4	1	3	2	0	1	.293
Gilbert cf	4	0	3	1	0	0	.234
Haase c	3	0	0	0	0	3	.214
Bericoto ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.167
Susac c	0	0	0	0	0	0	.287
Totals	**36**	**3**	**10**	**3**	**3**	**12**	

Miami	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Marsee cf	4	1	2	1	0	1	.208
Lopez ss	5	2	1	0	0	0	.332
Stowers 1b	2	0	0	0	2	1	.221
Edwards 2b	5	0	0	0	0	0	.286
Hernández lf	3	1	1	2	1	1	.233
Caissie dh	2	0	1	1	2	0	.225
Jiménez 3b	2	0	0	0	0	1	.187
Sanoja 3b	0	0	0	0	0	0	.247
Mack c	4	1	1	0	0	0	.255
Ruiz rf	2	1	0	0	0	0	.257
Totals	**29**	**6**	**6**	**4**	**5**	**4**	

San Francisco	**010 100 010 —**	**3 10 4**
Miami	**110 400 00x —**	**6 6 0**

E: Devers (5), Haase 2 (3), McDonald (2). **LOB:** San Francisco 9, Miami 10. **2B:** Lee 2 (18), Schmitt 2 (15), Gilbert (8), Marsee (10). **HR:** Schmitt (16), off Meyer; Hernández (7), off Gage. **RBIs:** Gilbert (15), Schmitt 2 (41), Caissie (40), Marsee (19), Hernández 2 (28). **SB:** Lopez (15), Caissie (4). **CS:** Gilbert (2). **S:** Marsee. **RISP:** San Francisco 5 for 14; Miami 2 for 12. **DP:** San Francisco 2 (Arraez, Devers, Arraez; Adames, Arraez, Devers).

San Francisco	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
McDonald, L, 2-5	3.0	3	5	3	3	1	69	4.93
Gage	0.2	2	1	1	1	0	28	3.96
Brubaker	2.1	1	0	0	1	2	35	2.75
Beck	2.0	0	0	0	0	1	18	6.75

Miami	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Meyer, W, 8-0	5.0	7	2	2	2	7	98	2.80
Zuber	1.1	0	0	0	0	2	22	4.76
Gibson	1.0	1	1	1	1	1	25	6.14
Bender	0.2	2	0	0	0	0	13	2.87
Fairbanks, S, 11-13	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	15	6.14

T: 3:08. **A:** 22,643 (37,446).

Rockies 2, Pirates 1

Pittsburgh	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Horwitz 1b	4	1	2	1	0	0	.281
Lowe 2b	4	0	2	0	0	1	.245
Reynolds lf	4	0	1	0	0	1	.285
Cook pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	.167
O'Hearn dh	4	0	0	0	0	2	.279
Gonzales 3b	3	0	0	0	0	2	.289
Callihan rf	3	0	0	0	1	1	.278
Mangum cf	4	0	1	0	0	1	.295
Triolo ss	3	0	0	0	0	1	.233
Davis c	2	0	0	0	0	0	.136
Rodríguez ph-c	1	0	0	0	0	1	.250
Totals	**32**	**1**	**6**	**1**	**1**	**10**	

Colorado	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
McCarthy rf	4	2	2	1	0	0	.292
Castro 3b-2b	4	0	0	0	0	2	.277
Rumfield 1b	2	0	1	1	1	1	.280
Goodman c	4	0	0	0	0	2	.244
Johnston dh	2	0	0	0	2	1	.309
Carrigg cf	2	0	1	0	0	0	.237
Julien 2b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.220
Karros 3b	0	0	0	0	0	0	.245
Tovar ss	3	0	0	0	0	2	.213
Thompson lf	3	0	1	0	0	1	.239
Totals	**27**	**2**	**5**	**2**	**3**	**10**	

Pittsburgh	**100 000 000 —**	**1 6 0**
Colorado	**101 000 00x —**	**2 5 0**

LOB: Pittsburgh 6, Colorado 6. **2B:** Mangum (6), Lowe (18), Carrigg (1), McCarthy (13). **HR:** Horwitz (10), off Sugano; McCarthy (5), off Skenes. **RBIs:** Horwitz (33), McCarthy (28), Rumfield (39). **SB:** Triolo (5). **CS:** Carrigg (1). **RISP:** Pittsburgh 1 for 6; Colorado 1 for 5. **DP:** Pittsburgh 1 (Lowe, Triolo, Horwitz); Colorado 1 (Tovar, Rumfield).

Pittsburgh	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Skenes, L, 6-7	6.0	4	2	2	2	8	104	2.86
Mlodzinski	2.0	1	0	0	1	2	32	3.72

Colorado	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Sugano, W, 8-4	6.0	4	1	1	0	5	85	4.31
Herget, H, 4	1.1	0	0	0	1	2	20	4.42
Bernardino, H, 5	1.0	2	0	0	0	2	21	3.86
Hill, S, 2-5	0.2	0	0	0	0	1	13	5.06

T: 2:29. **A:** 40,380 (50,144).

Red Sox 5, Mariners 1

Boston	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Seigler 2b	4	1	1	0	0	2	.286
Monasterio 2b	1	0	0	0	0	0	.235
Yoshida dh	4	0	1	0	0	1	.248
Abreu rf	3	2	1	2	1	0	.275
Contreras 1b	2	1	0	0	1	1	.286
Duran lf	4	1	0	0	0	1	.207
Durbin 3b	4	0	2	1	0	0	.208
Mayer ss	4	0	1	1	0	2	.223
Narváez c	3	0	0	0	1	2	.197
Eaton cf	3	0	0	0	1	2	.000
Totals	**32**	**5**	**6**	**4**	**4**	**11**	

Seattle	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Crawford 3b	3	1	0	0	1	0	.217
Raleigh c	3	0	1	0	1	1	.166
Rodríguez cf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.247
Naylor 1b	4	0	1	1	0	1	.253
Refsnyder rf-lf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.133
Young 2b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.252
Garver dh	2	0	0	0	0	2	.189
Raley ph-dh	1	0	0	0	0	1	.240
Joe lf	2	0	0	0	0	1	.179
Canzone ph-rf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.280
Emerson ss	3	0	0	0	0	3	.220
Totals	**28**	**1**	**2**	**1**	**2**	**10**	

Boston	**000 203 000 —**	**5 6 1**
Seattle	**100 000 000 —**	**1 2 1**

E: Seigler (1), Joe (3). **LOB:** Boston 5, Seattle 5. **HR:** Abreu (9), off Hancock. **RBIs:** Abreu 2 (36), Durbin (29), Mayer (22), Naylor (33). **SB:** Yoshida (2), Durbin 2 (7), Rodríguez (10). **CS:** Rodríguez (3), Durbin (3). **Runners left in scoring position:** Boston 3 (Abreu, Eaton, Mayer); Seattle 3 (Refsnyder, Emerson, Young). **RISP:** Boston 2 for 8; Seattle 1 for 5. **GIDP:** Mayer. **DP:** Seattle 1 (Crawford, Emerson, Naylor).

Boston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Early, W, 6-5	6.0	2	1	1	2	7	98	3.64
Guerrero	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	14	3.97
Whitlock	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	15	2.78
Coulombe	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	5	4.96

Seattle	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Hancock, L, 5-4	5.1	4	5	5	2	6	76	3.60
Ferrer	0.2	2	0	0	0	0	18	2.81
Davila	1.0	0	0	0	2	1	24	0.00
Rucker	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	15	4.50
Hoppe	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	14	5.32

T: 2:34. **A:** 45,663 (47,929).

Orioles 3, Dodgers 2

Baltimore	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
T.Ward lf	5	0	1	0	0	2	.252
Henderson dh	4	0	0	0	1	1	.220
Alonso 1b	3	0	0	0	1	2	.245
Basallo c	4	0	2	0	0	1	.258
Taveras rf	4	2	2	0	0	1	.255
Cowser cf	3	1	1	0	1	0	.226
Mayo 3b	3	0	0	1	1	1	.193
Holliday 2b	3	0	0	0	0	2	.200
Jackson 2b	1	0	0	0	0	0	.257
Alexander ss	4	0	1	2	0	1	.303
Totals	**34**	**3**	**7**	**3**	**4**	**11**	

Los Angeles	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Ohtani dh	4	1	1	1	0	1	.295
Pages cf	3	0	0	0	1	0	.268
Freeman 1b	3	1	0	0	1	1	.272
Betts ss	3	0	1	0	1	0	.217
Rojas 2b	3	0	0	0	0	0	.261
Freeland ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.233
Edman 3b-lf	4	0	2	0	0	1	.417
Tucker rf	4	0	0	0	0	3	.238
Call lf	2	0	0	0	0	1	.253
Muncy ph-3b	1	0	0	0	0	1	.264
Rushing c	3	0	0	0	0	1	.256
Totals	**31**	**2**	**4**	**1**	**3**	**9**	

Baltimore	**010 200 000 —**	**3 7 1**
Los Angeles	**000 000 002 —**	**2 4 0**

E: Taveras (5). **LOB:** Baltimore 8, Los Angeles 5. **2B:** Alexander (11). **HR:** Ohtani (16), off Kittredge. **RBIs:** Mayo (27), Alexander 2 (21), Ohtani (43). **CS:** Pages (4). **RISP:** Baltimore 1 for 5; Los Angeles 0 for 3.

Baltimore	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Rogers, W, 4-7	7.0	1	0	0	2	6	96	5.30
Garcia, H, 10	0.2	1	0	0	0	2	11	1.72
Wolfram, H, 8	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	3	4.12
Kittredge, H, 3	0.1	1	2	1	1	0	10	6.11
Cano, S, 1-2	0.2	1	0	0	0	1	15	2.08

Los Angeles	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Yamamoto, L, 7-5	6.0	6	3	3	2	6	102	2.65
Henriquez	1.0	0	0	0	1	2	14	3.14
Vesia	1.0	0	0	0	1	2	20	2.49
Hernández	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	14	4.61

T: 2:38. **A:** 50,538 (56,000).

Mets Team Stats

BATTERS	AVG	OBA	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	CS	E
Soto	.301	.397	216	36	65	7	1	17	38	35	33	6	3	0
Ewing	.258	.338	120	14	31	6	1	2	12	15	40	7	3	1
Benge	.257	.315	269	40	69	9	2	8	28	19	64	11	2	3
Alvarez	.257	.325	144	14	37	5	0	5	13	13	36	0	0	3
Bichette	.251	.295	307	39	77	11	1	8	42	20	56	1	0	7
Slater	.250	.286	20	3	5	1	0	0	1	1	6	0	0	0
Wagaman	.250	.400	12	1	3	0	0	1	2	2	4	0	0	0
Young	.235	.298	85	11	20	4	0	4	10	7	20	0	0	1
Lindor	.226	.314	93	14	21	2	2	2	5	11	19	2	1	1
Robert	.224	.327	85	10	19	3	0	2	8	13	17	2	2	0
Vientos	.223	.256	211	23	47	9	0	9	32	8	51	0	0	4
Semien	.222	.279	275	29	61	8	1	9	29	22	63	6	2	4
Baty	.221	.297	222	24	49	9	1	3	26	22	71	3	1	4
Torrens	.219	.270	128	15	28	9	0	1	15	5	29	0	0	2
Mauricio	.219	.219	32	3	7	0	0	1	2	0	12	0	0	1
Melendez	.191	.313	110	14	21	5	1	4	11	15	46	0	1	0
Taylor	.186	.210	97	8	18	4	0	3	14	3	19	0	1	1
Polanco	.179	.246	56	3	10	3	0	1	2	5	11	0	0	0
Senger	.133	.133	15	2	2	0	0	1	2	0	4	0	0	1
Short	.125	.125	8	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	1
Bruján	.091	.167	11	4	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0
Pham	.000	.071	13	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	0	0	0
Morabito	.000	.083	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	1	0
Ibáñez	.000	.000	6	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	2
Team Totals	**.233**	**.298**	**2546**	**309**	**592**	**95**	**10**	**81**	**295**	**218**	**624**	**38**	**18**	**42**

PITCHERS	W	L	ERA	G	GS	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
Minter	0	1	0.00	9	0	0	8	4	1	0	0	1	7
Duarte	0	0	0.00	3	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	1	3
Short	0	0	0.00	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Edwards	0	0	1.50	2	0	0	6	3	1	1	1	4	11
Gerber	0	0	1.80	3	0	0	5	5	1	1	0	1	6
Brazobán	4	1	1.91	32	6	0	37.2	19	9	8	2	17	33
Raley	2	1	2.00	30	0	0	27	22	7	6	2	12	31
Weaver	2	1	2.25	30	0	0	32	20	8	8	2	8	33
Holmes	4	4	2.39	9	9	0	52.2	40	14	14	3	18	45
Pintaro	0	0	2.61	4	0	0	10.1	4	3	3	2	1	9
Warren	1	3	2.63	20	2	0	27.1	23	9	8	3	12	28
Scott	2	0	3.10	9	9	0	40.2	36	15	14	4	19	47
Tong	1	1	3.60	3	0	0	10	8	6	4	1	7	7
McLean	4	4	3.67	15	15	0	83.1	59	40	34	8	32	97
Lovelady	1	1	3.68	6	0	0	7.1	8	5	3	1	4	6
Manaea	1	2	4.64	16	2	0	54.1	55	30	28	6	18	56
Peralta	5	6	4.83	16	16	0	85.2	85	48	46	12	34	83
Williams	3	2	5.18	27	0	11	24.1	23	14	14	2	15	38
Pérez	1	0	5.23	8	0	0	10.1	12	6	6	3	1	12
Myers	0	2	5.84	22	3	1	37	36	26	24	8	10	28
Peterson	3	5	5.91	15	7	1	64	76	46	42	5	28	58
Kimbrel	0	2	6.00	14	0	0	15	16	12	10	3	6	15
García	0	0	7.11	6	0	0	6.1	11	6	5	0	2	4
Thornton	0	1	8.31	1	1	0	4.1	4	4	4	1	2	3
Senga	0	5	9.00	6	6	0	24	28	25	24	7	17	28
Team Totals	34	42	4.07	76	76	13	678.2	598	336	307	76	270	688

Transactions

Saturday's Transactions

Major League Baseball
American League
Athletics: Placed RHP Mark Leiter Jr. on the 15-day IL, retroactive to June 18. Selected the contract of RHP Geoff Hartlieb from Las Vegas (PCL).
Houston Astros: Acquired 3B Brandon Nigh from Boise (Pioneer League).
Seattle Mariners: Sent OF Curtis Washington Jr. outright to Everett (NL).
Toronto Blue Jays: Reinstated RHP Lazaro Estrada from the 60-day IL. Reinstated OF Daulton Varsho from the 10-day IL. Optioned 2B Charles McAdoo and LHP Brendon Little to Buffalo (IL). Acquired SS Luis Urías from Arizona for cash considerations.
National League
Arizona Diamondbacks: Placed OF Jordan Lawlar on the 10-day IL. Placed RHP Michael Soroka on the 15-day IL. Recalled OF Tim Tawa and LHP Philip Abner from Reno (PCL).
Atlanta Braves: Sent LHP Danny Young on a rehab assignment to FCL Braves.
Chicago Cubs: Sent LHP Matthew Boyd on a rehab assignment to South Bend (ML).
San Diego Padres: Activated RHP Ron Marinaccio.
San Francisco Giants: Designated OF Jared Olivia for assignment.
BASKETBALL
Women's National Basketball Association
Phoenix Mercury: Temporarily suspended G Jovana Nogic.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
Carolina Hurricanes: Signed F Nicolas Deslauriers to a two-year contract.
Columbus Blue Jackets: Signed D Corson Ceulemans to a one-year, two-way contract.

WNBA

East	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	11	4	.733	—
Liberty	11	5	.688	½
Indiana	9	7	.563	2½
Toronto	8	8	.500	3½
Washington	7	7	.500	3½
Chicago	4	11	.267	7
Connecticut	2	15	.118	10

West	W	L	Pct.	GB
Minnesota	13	3	.813	—
Las Vegas	11	4	.733	1½
Dallas	10	6	.625	3
Golden State	10	6	.625	3
Portland	8	9	.471	5½
Los Angeles	7	8	.467	5½
Phoenix	5	12	.294	8½
Seattle	3	14	.176	10½

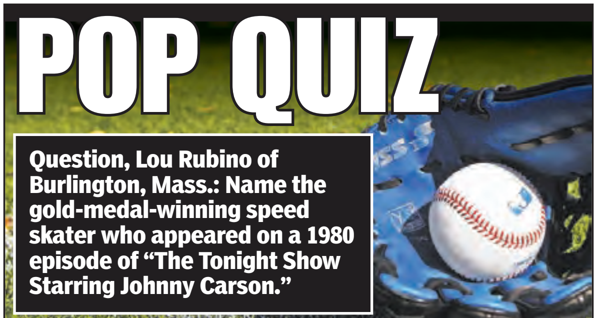
Saturday
Atlanta 113, Indiana 96
Phoenix 93, Seattle 73
Dallas 93, Chicago 92

Sunday
Liberty at Los Angeles, 8pm
Golden State at Las Vegas, 4pm
Washington at Minnesota, 6pm

Monday
Chicago at Connecticut, 7pm
Toronto at Atlanta, 7:30pm
Phoenix at Indiana, 8pm
Dallas at Seattle, 10pm

Tuesday
Liberty at Las Vegas, 10pm

POP QUIZ



Question, Lou Rubino of Burlington, Mass.: Name the gold-medal-winning speed skater who appeared on a 1980 episode of "The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson."

ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S QUESTION: RONDA ROUSEY HOSTED AN EPISODE OF "SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE."

SUBMIT QUESTIONS TO: KENDAVIDOFF4@GMAIL.COM

Golf

U.S. Open
At Shinnecock Hills Golf Club; Southampton, N.Y.; Purse: $22.5 million; Yardage: 7,440; Par: 70
Third Round

Wyndham Clark	64-69-70	203	-7
Tom Kim, South	70-67-72	209	-1
Scottie Scheffler	72-68-69	209	-1
Sam Stevens	68-69-72	209	-1
Sahith Theegala	72-67-70	209	-1
Sam Burns	71-68-71	210	E
Emiliano Grillo	73-70-67	210	E
Keith Mitchell	70-70-70	210	E
Xander Schauffele	71-66-73	210	E
Matt Fitzpatrick	67-70-74	211	+1
Tommy Fleetwood	70-71-70	211	+1
Collin Morikawa	73-65-73	211	+1
Keegan Bradley	70-71-71	212	+2
Corey Conners,	69-72-71	212	+2
Ryder Cowan	68-72-72	212	+2
Alex Fitzpatrick	71-69-72	212	+2
Akshay Bhatia	70-70-73	213	+3
Zac Blair	71-70-72	213	+3
Brian Harman	69-71-73	213	+3
Ryo Hisatsune	71-69-73	213	+3
Sungjae Im	74-68-71	213	+3
Michael Kim	71-72-70	213	+3
Rory McIlroy	69-71-73	213	+3
Maverick McNealy	72-68-73	213	+3
John Parry	71-71-71	213	+3
J.T. Poston	71-71-71	213	+3
Aaron Rai	74-67-72	213	+3
Gary Woodlan	67-73-73	213	+3
Pierceson Coody	72-71-71	214	+4
Ben Griffin	72-70-72	214	+4
Tyrrell Hatton	74-68-72	214	+4
Dustin Johnson	66-77-71	214	+4
Max McGreevy	68-73-73	214	+4
William Mouw	70-70-74	214	+4
N.Norgaard Moller	71-70-73	214	+4
Justin Rose	71-70-73	214	+4
Justin Thomas	71-68-75	214	+4
Laurie Canter	72-72-71	215	+5
Ben Kohles	70-71-74	215	+5
Joaquin Niemann	78-65-72	215	+5
Cameron Young	72-70-73	215	+5
Michael Brennan	72-71-73	216	+6
Bud Cauley	72-72-72	216	+6
Harry Higgs,	71-68-77	216	+6
Andrew Putnam	74-68-74	216	+6
Jordan Spieth	73-70-73	216	+6
Ludvig Aberg	69-72-76	217	+7
Ryan Fox	70-73-74	217	+7
Chris Gotterup	75-69-73	217	+7
Angel Hidalgo	69-74-74	217	+7
John Keefer,	71-70-76	217	+7
Jackson Koivun	72-71-74	217	+7
Robert MacIntyre	70-74-73	217	+7
Miles Russell	72-71-74	217	+7
Jacob Bridgeman	73-71-74	218	+8
Marek Fleming	72-72-74	218	+8
Max Greyserman	69-73-76	218	+8
Benjamin James	69-72-77	218	+8
Kurt Kitayama	74-68-76	218	+8
Spencer Tibbits	68-74-76	218	+8
Jackson Van Paris	70-72-76	218	+8
A. Dumnt De Chassrt	71-71-77	219	+9
Nicolas Echavarria	71-73-75	219	+9
Caleb Surratt	75-69-75	219	+9
Hideki Matsuyama	71-73-77	221	+11
Neal Shipley	71-73-77	221	+11
Eric Lee	74-70-78	222	+12
Russell Henley	70-73-80	223	+13
Patrick Rodgers	72-71-80	223	+13
Peter Uihlein	74-70-80	224	+14
James Nicholas	71-72-82	225	+15
Dylan Wu	73-71-82	226	+16

LPGA Tur - Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give
At Blythefield Country Club; Belmont, Mich.; Purse: $3.3 million; Yardage: 6,611; Par: 72
Third Round

Jing Yan	68-66-68	202	-14
Lottie Woad	69-66-68	203	-13
Cassie Porter	67-68-69	204	-12
In Gee Chun	69-72-65	206	-10
Wei-Ling Hsu	69-69-68	206	-10
Yan Liu	66-70-70	206	-10
Jin Hee Im	74-67-66	207	-9
Riley Smyth	70-70-67	207	-9
Miyu Yamashita	72-68-67	207	-9
Jenny Bae	70-67-71	208	-8
Karis Davidson	71-70-67	208	-8
MinJi Kang	68-68-72	208	-8
Minami Katsu	69-69-70	208	-8
Yu Liu	71-70-67	208	-8
Rio Takeda	71-66-71	208	-8
Aditi Ashok	69-69-71	209	-7
Hannah Green	70-72-67	209	-7
Nataliya Guseva	74-68-67	209	-7
Grace Kim	73-67-69	209	-7
Julia Lopez Ramirez	71-69-69	209	-7
Yahui Zhang	72-67-70	209	-7
Daniela Darquea	68-71-71	210	-6
Nnna Korstz Madsen	70-72-68	210	-6
Somi Lee	72-67-71	210	-6
Chanettee Wannasaen	73-67-70	210	-6
Yana Wilson	69-71-70	210	-6
Helen Briem	70-72-69	211	-5
Carlota Ciganda	72-69-70	211	-5
Lindy Duncan	72-70-69	211	-5
Chizzy Iwai	70-70-71	211	-5
Mary Liu	70-67-74	211	-5
Azahara Munoz	69-71-71	211	-5
Amy Yang	71-70-70	211	-5
Pajaree Anannarukarn	70-70-72	212	-4
Celine Herbin	70-72-70	212	-4
Jin Young Ko	69-73-70	212	-4
Jennifer Kupcho	68-70-74	212	-4
Jeongeun Lee6	71-70-71	212	-4
Carolina Melgrati	69-69-74	212	-4
Morgane Metraux	70-72-70	212	-4
Nastasia Nadaud	68-73-71	212	-4
Alexa Pano	72-69-71	212	-4
Jessica Porvasnik	67-73-72	212	-4
Yuka Saso	73-68-71	212	-4
Jasmine Suwnnpura	72-70-70	212	-4
Celine Borge	68-72-73	213	-3
Allisen Corpuz	70-69-74	213	-3
Isabella Fierro	73-69-71	213	-3
Isi Gabsa	70-71-72	213	-3
Brooke Henderson	73-66-74	213	-3
Esther Henseleit	71-68-74	213	-3
You Min Hwang	68-72-73	213	-3
Maude-Aimee Leblanc	69-73-71	213	-3
Benedetta Moresco	68-70-75	213	-3
Lauren Walsh	73-69-71	213	-3
Ana Belac	70-67-77	214	-2
Olivia Cowan	72-68-74	214	-2
Emma McMyler	71-70-73	214	-2
Chiara Tamburlini	73-67-74	214	-2
Na Rin An	74-68-73	215	-1
Sofia Garcia	70-72-73	215	-1
Minjee Lee	74-68-73	215	-1
Paula Reto	71-71-73	215	-1
Sophia Schubert	70-72-73	215	-1
Mi Hyang Lee	69-72-75	216	E
Jeong Eun Lee5	74-68-75	217	+1

The POST Line

MLB
Sunday
American League

Favorite	Money Line	Underdog
TIGERS	-105-115	White Sox
ASTROS	$113-136	Guardians
ATHLETICS	$143-175	Angels
MARINERS	$119-143	Red Sox

National League

Favorite	Money Line	Underdog
BRAVES	$119-143	Brewers
Giants	$119-143	MARLINS
Pirates	$123-149	ROCKIES
PHILLIES	$163-199	**Mets**

Interleague

Favorite	Money Line	Underdog
YANKEES	$119-143	Reds
RAYS	$119-143	Nationals
Cardinals	$102-122	ROYALS
Blue Jays	$104-126	CUBS
RANGERS	OFF	Padres
D'BACKS	$109-133	Twins
DODGERS	$179-219	Orioles

Home team in CAPS

FIFA World Cup
Sunday

Favorite	Money Line	Underdog
*Spain	$1000-2500	Saudi Arabia
**Belgium	$235-650	Iran
***Uruguay	$220-750	Cape Verde
****Egypt	$165-450	New Zealand

*Atlanta, **Los Angeles, ***Miami, ****Vancouver,

Monday

Favorite	Money Line	Underdog
*Argentina	$170-500	Austria
**France	$1400-3000	Iraq
***Norway	$130-210	Senegal
****Algeria	$175-500	Jordan

*Dallas, **Philadelphia, ***MetLife Stadium, ****Santa Clara, Calif.

WNBA
Sunday

Favorite	PTS (O/U)	Underdog
Liberty	5.5 (178.5)	SPARKS
ACES	3.5 (167.5)	Valkyries
LYNX	13.5 (168.5)	Mystics

SPORTS SHORTS

MLB: Tigers' Melton gives up 1 hit

Troy Melton allowed one hit in six innings and the Tigers lineup came alive late in a 4-1 victory over the White Sox in Detroit.

Dillon Dingler had two hits, including a home run, and drove in two runs as Detroit won its second straight game after losing four of five.

Melton (4-0) gave up a homer to **Sam Antonacci** on his second pitch of the game but allowed only four more base runners — on three walks and a hit batter.

● In Houston, rookie **Travis Bazzana** set career highs with four hits, two homers, five RBIs and three runs scored, and the Guardians beat the Astros 8-1.

● In Miami, **Max Meyer** allowed two runs in five innings to win his eighth consecutive decision to start the season, **Heriberto Hernández** homered and the Marlins beat the Giants 6-3 for their seventh straight victory at home.

● **Jarred Kelenic**, the former Mets prospect playing on his fourth team in four seasons, made his first start for the Rangers in left field in a 6-4 loss in 10 innings to San Diego on Saturday.

● In St. Petersburg, Fla., **Dylan Crews** homered in the ninth inning, **C.J. Abrams** also hit a solo homer and the Nationals beat the Rays 4-3.

● In Atlanta, **Ozzie Albies** hit two homers, including a walk-off, two-run blast in the ninth inning to give the Braves a 4-3 come-from-behind win over the Brewers.

● Milwaukee manager **Pat Murphy** said he plans to have back surgery Thursday, when the team is off, and a procedure on his hip during the All-Star break. He said he doesn't expect to miss any games.

WNBA: Reese gets 1,000th board

Rhyne Howard scored 24 points, **Allisha Gray** added 22, and the Dream set a franchise record for points in a game with a 113-96 victory against **Caitlin Clark** and the Fever in Atlanta.

Angel Reese, who finished with 18 points and eight rebounds, became the fastest player in WNBA history to reach 1,000 career rebounds, reaching the milestone in her 79th game.

The Dream earned their third straight win in front of a sold-out crowd of 17,044 at State Farm Arena, home of the NBA's Hawks, in one of five homes games there this season.

● In Arlington, Texas, **Li Yueru** made two free throws with 12.5 seconds left to give Dallas its first lead as the Wings scored a season high 36 fourth-quarter points to rally from a 14-point deficit to beat the Sky 93-92.

ETC.: OU 1 win from CWS crown

Deiten Lachance homered twice off North Carolina ace **Jason DeCaro**, Oklahoma shut down the Tar Heels after the first inning and the Sooners won Game 1 of the College World Series finals 9-3 on Saturday in Omaha, Neb., to move within a victory of the national championship.

● Versatile guard **Collin Gillespie** is passing on free agency and has agreed to a four-year, $48 million contract to remain with the Suns, according to reports.

● In Belmont, Mich., **Jing Yan** shot a 4-under 68 to maintain a one-shot lead over **Lottie Woad** in the wind-swept Meijer LPGA Classic, the final event before the major KPMG Women's PGA Championship next week at Hazeltine.

TOP PLAY

Offense scarce at Stadium

By DYLAN SVOBODA

The weekend series between the Yankees and Reds continues in The Bronx on Sunday afternoon with the latter's starter entering in strong form.

The matchup was set to feature two arms who have been throwing well lately, but the Bombers' Gerrit Cole, who hasn't missed a beat since completing his comeback from Tommy John surgery, was pushed back to Monday to get some extra rest.

Instead, it'll be Elmer Rodríguez on the mound for the Yankees, who have a tall task ahead of them offensively.

Cincinnati counters with breakout right-hander Chase Burns, who is pitching about as well as anyone in baseball, against the Aaron Judge-less Yankees lineup.

Burns has a 2.01 ERA with 95 strikeouts in 80 $^2/_3$ innings heading into Sunday's game, putting him squarely in the National League Cy Young conversation.

He's only getting better of late as well.

Since May 14, no qualified pitcher has struck out more batters per nine innings (12.56) and only seven have a better ERA (1.87).

In all six starts since that date, Burns has punched out at least seven batters.

The Yankees have held their own with Judge and Giancarlo Stanton sidelined, but they've seldom seen a pitcher like Burns this season.

If Burns carries his strikeout stuff into Yankee Stadium, runs will be at a premium for the pinstripes.

THE PLAY: Yankees Under run total and Chase Burns Over his strikeout prop

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Pitching Form

		(Game time)	2026 W-L	2026 ERA	*REC	'26 vs OPP W-L	'26 vs OPP ERA	CAREER vs OPP	LAST 3 STARTS W-L	LAST 3 STARTS IP	LAST 3 STARTS ERA
Mets	Peterson (L)	–	3-5	5.91	2-5	0-0	0.00	1-4	1-2	13.2	9.54
Phillies	Wheeler (R)	(7:20pm)	6-1	2.01	8-2	0-0	0-0	5-5	2-0	19.0	1.42
Reds	Burns (R)	–	8-1	2.01	10-4	0-0	0.00	0-0	1-0	16.1	2.20
Yankees	E. Rodriguez (R)	(1:35pm)-	0-1	4.15	1-2	–	–	–	0-1	13.0	4.15
Nationals	Alvarez (L)	–	1-0	3.49	2-1	0-0	0.00	0-0	0-0	12.2	2.84
Rays	Martinez (R)	(1:40pm)	6-2	2.60	10-4	0-0	0.00	0-0	1-1	16.1	6.61
Cardinals	May (R)	–	5-6	3.75	7-7	0-0	4.50	0-1	2-0	20.2	1.31
Royals	Kolek (R)	(2:10pm)	4-1	2.68	6-2	1-0	0.00	2-0	1-0	19.1	1.40
Blue Jays	Cease (R)	–	4-3	2.71	8-5	0-0	3.18	4-2	1-1	15.2	1.72
Cubs	Imanaga (L)	(2:20pm)	4-6	4.26	6-9	–	–	0-1	0-0	16.2	3.78
Padres	TBD	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Rangers	Eovaldi (R)	(2:35pm)	6-7	4.23	7-7	0-0	0.00	2-2	1-1	18.2	5.30
Twins	TBD	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
D'Backs	TBD	(2:35pm)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Orioles	Young (R)	–	5-2	3.18	9-2	0-0	0.00	0-0	2-1	19.1	2.79
Dodgers	Sheehan	(4:10pm)	3-4	4.76	7-6	0-0	0.00	1-0	0-3	12.2	4.97
White Sox	Martin (R)	–	9-3	3.31	11-3	0-1	7.84	1-2	1-2	14.0	9.64
Tigers	Montero (R)	(1:40pm)	3-5	3.67	5-8	0-0	0.00	0-0	1-1	17.1	2.08
Guardians	Cecconi (R)	–	3-5	4.60	5-10	0-1	10.80	1-1	0-0	16.2	2.16
Astros	Teng (R)	(2:10pm)	3-6	4.31	2-6	0-0	0.00	0-0	0-3	12.1	10.22
Angels	Detmers (L)		3-5	3.68	6-9	0-1	13.84	2-2	1-0	20.0	0.45
Athletics	Perkins (R)	(4:05pm)	2-3	6.15	1-2	0-0	0.00	1-0	0-1	13.0	7.62
Red Sox	Tolle (L)	–	3-4	2.93	3-7	0-0	0.00	0-0	1-2	17.0	3.71
Mariners	Gilbert (R)	(4:10pm)	5-4	3.43	9-6	0-1	3.60	0-2	2-0	18.1	2.45
Brewers	Gasser (L)	–	0-3	4.88	1-4	0-0	0.00	0-0	0-2	15.2	4.02
Braves	Elder (R)	(1:35pm)	5-4	3.15	9-6	0-0	0.00	2-1	1-1	16.2	5.94
Giants	Webb (R)	–	4-4	3.46	4-8	0-0	3.00	1-2	2-0	23.0	0.39
Marlins	Gusto (R)	(1:40pm)	0-2	7.24	1-2	0-0	2.25	0-0	0-2	10.2	6.75
Pirates	Jones (R)	–	1-1	6.23	3-1	0-0	0.00	0-1	1-1	13.0	4.85
Rockies	Lorenzen (R)	(3:10pm)	2-8	7.13	5-10	0-1	3.60	7-3	0-1	13.1	6.75

* **REC:** Won-lost record of pitcher's team in games he has started.

STITCHES

Go Daddy! Go Mariners!

Father of the year? My dad. An Army veteran who always put his family first.

You know, the more I hear about this "Tartan Army," the more I want to follow in my dad's footsteps.

The Red Sox visit the Mariners and I haven't been this excited since McDonald's brought back the "fried apple pie." Boston's Payton Tolle was deep fried, losing his last two starts. Tolle allowed seven runs on 13 hits over those 11 innings. Seattle's Logan Gilbert is 3-0 in his last four starts and has given up just two runs in his last 13 innings. This father will take Gilbert and the Mariners for $50.

-$

Double play! With the game tied at 3-3 and my smart watch warning me that my heart rate was elevated, Manny Machado hit a three-run homer and the Padres toasted Texas 6-4. And Max Meyer is now 8-0 after the Marlins beat Frisco 6-3. Winner, winner, chicken dinner! Up, yes up +14 oscargambles.

stitches@nypost.com

Home Team Lineups

HOME AWAY

	TODAY June 21	MON June 22	TUE June 23	WED June 24	THU June 25
	Cincinnati 1:35 YES 660 AM 101.9 FM	Detroit 6:10 YES 660 AM 101.9 FM	Detroit 6:40 YES 660 AM 101.9 FM	Detroit 6:40 Prime Video 660 AM 101.9 FM	Boston 7:10 YES 660 AM 101.9 FM
	Philadelphia 7:20 NBC Peacock 880 AM	Cubs 7:10 SNY 880 AM	Cubs 7:10 SNY 880 AM	Cubs 7:10 PIX11 880 AM	Cubs 7:10 SNY 880 AM
	Los Angeles 8:00 ESPN	NO GAME	Las Vegas 10:00 My9 USA	NO GAME	Seattle 10:00 My9

Wednesday, July 22	Wednesday, July 22	Friday
FIFA World Cup Break until July 22	FIFA World Cup Break until July 22	KC Current 8:00 Prime Video

Today's Sports on the Air

	MLB BASEBALL	
1:30 p.m.	White Sox at Tigers	MLBN
1:35 p.m.	Reds at Yankees	YES, 660 AM, 101.9 FM
3 p.m.	Twins at Diamondbacks	NBCSN, Peacock
7:20 p.m.	Mets at Phillies	NBC, Peacock, 880 AM
	WNBA BASKETBALL	
4 p.m.	Valkyries at Aces	CBS
6 p.m.	Mystics at Lynx	NBATV
8 p.m.	Liberty at Sparks	ESPN
	MEN'S SOCCER: FIFA WORLD CUP	
Noon	Group Stage: Spain vs. Saudi Arabia	Fox, Telemundo
3 p.m.	Group Stage: Belgium vs. Iran	FS1, Telemundo
6 p.m.	Group Stage: Uruguay vs. Cape Verde	FS1, Telemundo
9 p.m.	Group Stage: New Zealand vs. Egypt	FS1, Telemundo
	GOLF	
9 a.m.	PGA Tour: U.S. Open, Final Round	USA
11 a.m.	LPGA Tour: Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give, Final Round	Golf
Noon	PGA Tour: U.S. Open, Final Round	NBC
2 p.m.	LPGA Tour: Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give, Final Round	CBS
	COLLEGE BASEBALL WORLD SERIES	
2:30 p.m.	Finals: Oklahoma vs. North Carolina, Game 2	ABC
	MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL	
1 p.m.	New Hampshire Fisher Cats at Binghamton Rumble Ponies	SNY
	AUTO RACING	
7:30 a.m.	FIM MotoGP: Czechia Grand Prix	FS1
10 a.m.	FIM Motorcross: MX2 Italy	CBSSN
11 a.m.	FIM Motorcross: MXGP Italy	CBSSN
11 a.m.	NTT IndyCar Series: Xpel Grand Prix at Road America, Warmup	FS1
Noon	Indy NXT Series: Grand Prix at Road America - Race 2	FS1
2 p.m.	NTT IndyCar Series: Xpel Grand Prix at Road America	FOX
4 p.m.	NASCAR Cup Series: Anduril 250	Prime Video
	SOFTBALL	
12:30 p.m.	Athletes Unlimited: Spark at Cascade	ESPN
8 p.m.	Athletes Unlimited: Blaze at Bandits	MLBN
	TENNIS	
6 a.m.	ATP London, Finals	Tennis
6 a.m.	ATP Halle, Finals	Tennis
6 a.m.	WTA Berlin, Finals	Tennis
6 a.m.	WTA Nottingham, Finals	Tennis
	WOMEN'S FOOTBALL	
4 p.m.	2026 WNFC IX Cup Championship: Texas vs. San Diego	ESPN2
	MEN'S RUGBY	
8 p.m.	MLR Championship: Chicago vs. California	ESPN2
	HORSE RACING	
Noon	FanDuel Racing	MSGSN
12:30 p.m.	America's Day at the Races	FS2
1 p.m.	America's Day at the Races	FS1
2 p.m.	America's Day at the Races	FS2
	SPECIAL OLYMPICS	
Noon	2026 Special Olympics Opening Ceremony Recap	ABC
	BOWLING	
Noon	PBA Tour: Norm Duke Open, Semifinals	CBSSN
4 p.m.	PBA Tour: Norm Duke Open, Final	CBSSN

ODDS & ENDS

WORLD CUP

Sunday

Spain vs. Saudi Arabia

3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
Spain	-900
Draw	+900
Saudi Arabia	+2,000
TOTAL GOALS	**ODDS**
Over 3.5	+120
Under 3.5	-150
ANYTIME GOAL SCORER	**ODDS**
Mikel Oyarzabal	-145
Lamine Yamal	-120
Ferran Torres	-105
Nico Williams	+125
Dani Olmo	+135
Mikel Merino	+155
Fabián Ruiz	+240

Belgium vs. Iran

3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
Belgium	-225
Draw	+350
Iran	+575
TOTAL GOALS	**ODDS**
Over 2.5	-118
Under 2.5	-110
ANYTIME GOAL SCORER	**ODDS**
Romelo Lukaku	+115
Kevin De Bruyne	+190
Leandro Trossard	+210
Jérémy Doku	+220
Youri Tielemans	+440
Mehdi Taremi	+450
Mohammad Mohebbi	+500

Uruguay vs. Cape Verde

3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
Uruguay	-220
Draw	+310
Cape Verde	+650
TOTAL GOALS	**ODDS**
Over 2.5	+130
Under 2.5	-165
ANYTIME GOAL SCORER	**ODDS**
Darwin Núñez	+145
Federico Viñas	+160
Agustín Canobbio	+220
Federico Valverde	+280
Maximiliano Araújo	+440
Rodrigo Bentancur	+650
Juan Manuel Sanabria	+650

New Zealand vs. Egypt

3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
New Zealand	+450
Draw	+280
Egypt	-165
TOTAL GOALS	**ODDS**
Over 2.5	+110
Under 2.5	-140
ANYTIME GOAL SCORER	**ODDS**
Mohamed Salah	+130
Omar Marmoush	+150
Mostafa Zico	+200
Hamza Abdelkarim	+250
Haissem Hassan	+280
Chris Wood	+360
Emam Ashour	+410

BET SMART

Time to make some 'G' money

By MICHAEL LEBOFF

Group G is perfectly poised as we head into the second part of the round robin. Belgium, Egypt, Iran and New Zealand are all on a level playing field with one point and an even goal difference, but the two teams that will be most disappointed with their first match are undoubtedly Belgium and Iran.

The Belgians were -170 favorites to defeat Egypt but needed a second-half equalizer to earn a 1-1 draw. Iran was odds-on against New Zealand but fell behind twice before walking off the pitch with a 2-2 tie.

And it wasn't just the result that would have left both Belgium and Iran with bitter tastes in their mouths after their first match. Neither side played particularly well, either.

Like a handful of favorites during their first match, Belgium looked out of answers for much of their tilt with Egypt. The Belgians were pretty toothless in the first 60 minutes, and it wasn't until 33-year-old striker Romelu Lukaku came off the bench that they started to make sense on the field. Lukaku didn't get credit for Belgium's lone goal, but it was all his doing.

The problem is that it's hard to trust that Lukaku could be impactful for a full 90 minutes. Perhaps manager Rudi Garcia elects to start his country's all-time leading scorer, but that could backfire if Iran holds the Red Devils off the board in the first hour. Then, who would Garcia turn to if they need to change the tempo?

Regardless of who Garcia taps up front, it would behoove Belgium to be on the front foot from the opening whistle.

Though Iran came into the tournament with a reputation of being a rugged, defensively sound opponent, the Lions of Persia looked out of their depth at times against a New Zealand side that was full of pluck but would never be confused with France or Spain in terms of talent.

If Iran couldn't keep the Kiwis quiet, then what happens if Belgium decides to go for it?

Perhaps that's playing into Iran's strength as a defend-and-counter team, but Belgium really has no other option. They will rue how conservative they were against Egypt, as they just seemed to be waiting for Kevin De Bruyne to create a moment of magic to unlock the game.

Playing through the middle with De Bruyne is a fine strategy when the situation calls for it, but Iran is going to commit to jamming things up in the midfield. That will put Jeremy Doku and Leandro Trossard, two elite attacking players out wide, into the spotlight. That should be a good thing for Belgium, so long as it isn't stubborn about getting the ball to the feet of De Bruyne.

The other reason I expect a more aggressive approach from the Red Devils is that they know they need to get three points from this match if they're going to win Group G, which would put them in a plum position for the beginning parts of the knockout stages.

Iran will believe in its ability to weather the storm against Belgium, but it showed some serious defensive vulnerabilities in its draw against New Zealand, so I have a hard time betting on Amir Ghalenoei's side holding the fort for 90 minutes.

And one goal, whether it be for Belgium or Iran, will open up this contest further, as both sides know they need to get something out of this match if they want to advance.

Recommendation: The Over 2.5 goals looks to be a savvy bet for this one, and don't shy away from Trossard to get on the board at +220 (FanDuel), as this stylistic matchup should suit him.

Leandro Trossard

Getty Images

WHEN NEXT WAS NOW

First WNBA game — 29 years ago today — was end to huge buildup, and beginning of grind to validity

By MADELINE KENNEY

REBECCA Lobo pulled her flimsy headphones over her ears and pressed play on her Walkman on the bus ride over to the Great Western Forum in Inglewood, Calif.

It was June 21, 1997.

Lobo had spent months promoting this new U.S. women's basketball league. On her way to the arena, she passed a massive billboard with her face on it alongside Lisa Leslie's and the tagline: "We got next."

Now, it was finally time for the fun part: the game.

That day, as the New York Liberty visited the Los Angeles Sparks, the concept of the WNBA — the late former NBA commissioner David Stern's brainchild — became a reality.

Lobo doesn't recall feeling any nerves outside of the usual game-day jitters leading up to the first WNBA game.

Then again, Lobo said she didn't have the perspective at age 23 to fully recognize the significance of the moment the way she can now.

"It was just like, it's finally here," Lobo told The Post.

Thirty seasons later, the WNBA is still here — and thriving more than ever.

It hasn't always maintained a steady trajectory through the decades. The league expanded to 16 teams before downsizing. Some historic franchises, including the Houston Comets and Detroit Shock, folded or moved and rebranded. For years, the WNBA faced questions about its future.

Sunday
LIBERTY AT SPARKS
8 p.m.
ESPN

Not anymore.

With women's sports experiencing unprecedented investment and on the heels of a historic WNBA collective bargaining agreement that offered player salaries north of $1 million, the WNBA is here to stay.

As part of the league's 30th season celebration, the Liberty are heading to Los Angeles to play the Sparks on Sunday, the 29th anniversary of the first game.

Instead of Leslie versus Lobo, though, it's Sabrina Ionescu and Breanna Stewart versus Kelsey Plum and Nneka Ogwumike.

In honor of the occasion, The Post spoke with three people who had varied vantage points that historic day at the Forum.

The player: Liberty center Rebecca Lobo

Previous professional women's basketball leagues never had staying power. The WNBA, which was backed by the NBA and riding the momentum of the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, gave Lobo hope that this league would be different.

"We were just sort of immersed in how thankful we were," Lobo said. "And then what can we do to continue to keep this league growing?"

Playing on the court where Magic Johnson and Larry Bird went to battle made the WNBA's first game all the more special for Lobo, a Massachusetts native and longtime Celtics fan.

Lobo recalls the game being a little sloppy. That was to be expected, she said, given that the teams had been formed just a few weeks prior.

After the Liberty's 67-57 win, Lobo signed autographs until her hand cramped up. She then went to a poolside reception at a fancy hotel, where players from both teams, league officials and sponsors gathered.

Even though the WNBA had made its debut, the work of an ambassador wasn't over.

"I was fortunate in that my playing days came at the right time," said Lobo, now a women's basketball analyst at ESPN. "I'm mostly just feeling incredible gratitude and feeling fortunate that I've been able to not only play in the league and be one of the players that was part of the league when it first started to now, still being able to cover it.

"I do definitely take not only pride, but I take it seriously that as popular as the league is now, people need to understand its history, too."

The broadcaster: NBC's Hannah Storm

When Storm thinks about the WNBA's first game, the months of prep work that went into it come to mind.

Storm was a first-time mom and had never done play-by-play before. But Dick Ebersol, the former chairman of NBC Sports, believed in her, and partnered Storm with analyst and former UCLA star Ann Meyers.

The assignment was "exciting and a little bit intimidating," Storm said. There was a huge amount of research, practice and meetings that went into that game. She shadowed Doris Burke, who at the time was calling games at UConn, and did practice play-by-play calls that famed NBC announcer Marv Albert offered feedback on.

Storm felt the pressure of making a good first impression.

"When the game started, it was kind of a relief," Storm said, "because the buildup was over and then you're like, 'Oh, well, now we're gonna talk about basketball.'"

Storm went on to be NBC's top announcer for WNBA games that season.

"I will be honest that having a newborn while doing all of this was pretty wild, and I did get an ulcer that summer — my one and only ulcer — because it was stressful," said Storm, now with ESPN. "But at the same time, it was so exciting, so gratifying and it taught me a really good lesson about, you just never know what opportunities are going to come along."

The fan: 12-year-old Noelle Quinn

Think about the best concert, show or event that you've ever attended.

Now amplify that experience by five.

That's how Noelle Quinn recalls the first WNBA game, which she attended with her mother and uncle, who purchased season tickets. Her mother still sits in the same seats — near the Sparks tunnel, catty-corner to their bench — to this day.

Quinn loved women's basketball,

HE BALL WAS TIPPED: The WNBA hit the court for the first time June 21, 1997, as the Liberty's Kym Hampton (far left) jumped with the Sparks' Lisa Leslie. It was a festive atmosphere as Leslie visited the broadcast team of Hannah Storm (in red) and Ann Meyers before the game, fans danced in the seats during the action, and Rebecca Lobo walked off victorious afterward. Getty Images (3); AP

but felt like it was only accessible to the masses during Olympic years. She had photos from Lobo and Leslie's "Got Milk" ad campaign hung on her wall.

Quinn went to the Forum as a basketball fan, but left as a Sparks and Tamecka Dixon fan.

"It was cool as a young black girl to see black women in their element, doing something at the highest level and really being able to see maybe yourself within those women," Quinn said, "because again, just making it [a] more tangible ... dream for a young basketball player."

Quinn made her WNBA dream a reality a decade later.

The Minnesota Lynx drafted Quinn No. 4 overall in the 2007 draft after she starred at UCLA. She played 12 seasons and later became a WNBA head coach.

"I'm proud to witness the growth," Quinn said. "And to understand that you had to get out of the mud ... that was not easy. And to see where the WNBA is now, it's a testament to the hard work of the individuals that came before, but also it's a nod to the players who have the torch now and who are able to play like the people they looked up to ... and just continue the legacy. It is amazing to see."

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Start of the matter

First WNBA game: New York Liberty vs. Los Angeles Sparks

When: June 21, 1997

Where: Great Western Forum, Inglewood, Calif.

Final score: Liberty, 67-57

First basket: Sparks guard Penny Toler. "Her story was [like] so many others in that ... she wasn't one of the huge stars from the Olympic team," broadcaster Hannah Storm told The Post. "And she had been able to achieve her dream."

Leaders

Liberty

Rebecca Lobo, 16 points
Vickie Johnson, eight rebounds
Teresa Weatherspoon, 10 assists

Sparks

Lisa Leslie, 16 points and 14 rebounds
Jamila Wideman, six assists

Courtside celebrities

Model Tyra Banks, actress Penny Marshall

On that day ...

No. 1 song: "I'll Be Missing You" by Puff Daddy and Faith Evans

No. 1 movie: "The Lost World: Jurassic Park"

Price of a gallon of milk: $2.67

FIFA World Cup

GROUP A

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
x,y-Mexico	2	2	0	0	3	0	6
South Korea	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Czechia	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
South Africa	2	0	1	1	1	3	1

GROUP A
Thursday, June 11
Mexico 2, South Africa 0
South Korea 2, Czechia 1
Thursday, June 18
Czechia 1, South Africa 1
Mexico 1, South Korea 0
Wednesday, June 24
Czechia vs. Mexico, 9pm
South Africa vs. South Korea, 9pm

GROUP B

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Canada	2	1	1	0	7	1	4
Switzerland	2	1	1	0	5	2	4
Bosnia-Herzegovina	2	0	1	1	2	5	1
Qatar	1	0	1	1	1	7	1

GROUP B
Friday, June 12
Canada 1, Bosnia-Herzegovina 1
Saturday, June 13
Qatar 1, Switzerland 1
Thursday, June 18
Switzerland 4, Bosnia-Herzegovina 1
Canada 6, Qatar 0
Wednesday, June 24
Switzerland vs. Canada, 3pm
Bosnia-Herzegovina vs. Qatar, 3pm

GROUP C

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Brazil	2	1	1	0	4	1	4
Morocco	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Scotland	2	1	0	1	1	1	3
Haiti	2	0	0	2	0	4	0

GROUP C
Saturday, June 13
Brazil 1, Morocco 1
Scotland 1, Haiti 0
Friday, June 19
Morocco 1, Scotland 0
Brazil 3, Haiti 0
Wednesday, June 24
Scotland vs. Brazil, 6pm
Morocco vs. Haiti, 6pm

GROUP D

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
x,y-United States	**2**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**6**	**1**	**6**
Australia	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Paraguay	2	1	0	1	2	4	3
Turkey	2	0	0	2	0	3	0

GROUP D
Friday, June 12
United States 4, Paraguay 1
Sunday, June 14
Australia 2, Turkey 0
Friday, June 19
United States 2, Australia 0
Paraguay 1, Turkey 0
Thursday
Turkey vs. **United States,** 10pm
Paraguay vs. Australia, 10pm

GROUP E

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
x,y-Germany	2	2	0	0	9	2	6
Ivory Coast	2	1	0	1	2	1	3
Ecuador	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
Curacao	2	0	1	1	1	7	1

GROUP E
Sunday, June 14
Germany 7, Curacao 1
Ivory Coast 1, Ecuador 0
Saturday
Germany 2, Ivory Coast 1
Ecuador 0, Curacao 0
Thursday
Ecuador vs. Germany, 4pm
Curacao vs. Ivory Coast, 4pm

GROUP F

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Netherlands	2	1	1	0	7	3	4
Sweden	2	1	0	1	6	6	3
Japan	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Tunisia	1	0	0	1	1	5	0

GROUP F
Sunday, June 14
Netherlands 2, Japan 2
Sweden 5, Tunisia 1
Saturday
Netherlands 5, Sweden 1
Sunday
Tunisia vs. Japan, 12am
Thursday
Tunisia vs. Netherlands, 7pm
Japan vs. Sweden, 7pm

GROUP G

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
New Zealand	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Iran	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Belgium	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Egypt	1	0	1	0	1	1	1

GROUP G
Monday, June 15
Belgium 1, Egypt 1
Iran 2, New Zealand 2
Sunday
Belgium vs. Iran, 3pm
New Zealand vs. Egypt, 9pm
Friday, June 26
New Zealand vs. Belgium, 11pm
Egypt vs. Iran, 11pm

GROUP H

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Uruguay	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Saudi Arabia	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Spain	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Cape Verde	1	0	1	0	0	0	1

GROUP H
Monday, June 15
Spain 0, Cape Verde 0
Saudi Arabia 1, Uruguay 1
Sunday
Spain vs. Saudi Arabia, 12pm
Uruguay vs. Cape Verde, 6pm
Friday
Uruguay vs. Spain, 8pm
Cape Verde vs. Saudi Arabia, 8pm

GROUP I

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Norway	1	1	0	0	4	1	3
France	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Senegal	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
Iraq	1	0	0	1	1	4	0

GROUP I
Tuesday, June 16
France 3, Senegal 1
Iraq 1, Norway 4
Monday
France vs. Iraq, 5pm
Norway vs. Senegal, 8pm
Friday
Norway vs. France, 3pm
Senegal vs. Iraq, 3pm

GROUP J

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Argentina	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Austria	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Jordan	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
Algeria	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

GROUP J
Tuesday, June 16
Argentina 3, Algeria 0
Wednesday, June 17
Austria 3, Jordan 1
Monday
Argentina vs. Austria, 1pm
Jordan vs. Algeria, 11pm
Saturday, June 27
Jordan vs. Argentina, 10pm
Algeria vs. Austria, 10pm

GROUP K

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Colombia	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Congo	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Portugal	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Uzbekistan	1	0	0	1	1	3	0

GROUP K
Wednesday, June 17
Portugal 1, Congo 1
Uzbekistan 1, Colombia 3
Tuesday
Portugal vs. Uzbekistan, 1pm
Colombia vs. Congo, 10pm
Saturday, June 27
Colombia vs. Portugal, 7:30pm
Congo vs. Uzbekistan, 7:30pm

GROUP L

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
England	1	1	0	0	4	2	3
Ghana	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Panama	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Croatia	1	0	0	1	2	4	0

GROUP L
Wednesday, June 17
England 4, Croatia 2
Ghana 1, Panama 0
Tuesday
England vs. Ghana, 4pm
Panama vs. Croatia, 7pm
Saturday, June 27
Panama vs. England, 5pm
Croatia vs. Ghana, 5pm

x,y—Advanced To Knockout stage and clinched Group.

Tennis

ATP World Tour Terra Wortmann Open

At Gerry Weber Stadium; Halle, Germany; Purse: Euro2,583,330; Surface: Grass; Saturday (seedings in parentheses):
Men's Singles - Semifinals
Taylor Fritz (5), United States, def. Alexander Zverev (1), Germany, 6-7 (4), 6-4, 7-5.
Frances Tiafoe, United States, def. Daniel Altmaier, Germany, 6-1, 6-3.

ATP World Tour Cinch Championships

At The Queen's Club; London; Purse: Euro2,583,330; Surface: Grass; Saturday seedings in parentheses):
Men's Singles - Semifinals
Francisco Cerundolo (7), Argentina, def. Brandon Nakashima, United States, 6-7 (5), 6-3, 6-4.
Tommy Paul (8), United States, def. Ugo Humbert, France, 6-3, 6-3.

WTA Bett1Open

At Am Rothenbaum Rot-Weiss Tennis Club; Berlin; Purse: Euro1,049,083; Surface: Grass; Saturday (seedings in parentheses):
Women's Singles - Semifinals
Jessica Pegula (3), United States, def. Aryna Sabalenka (1), Belarus, 6-4, 6-7 (4), 6-0.
Linda Noskova (8), Czechia, def. Alexandra Eala, Philippines, 6-2, 6-4.

WTA Rothesay Open Nottingham

At Nottingham Tennis Centre; Nottingham, Great Britain; Purse: $283,347; Surface: Grass; NOTTINGHAM, GREAT BRITAIN (AP) _ Saturday (seedings in parentheses):
Women's Singles - Semifinals
Marie Bouzkova (4), Czechia, def. Karolina Pliskova, Czechia, 6-4, 6-1.
Emma Navarro (3), United States, def. Viktorija Golubic, Switzerland, 7-6 (5), 6-2.

U.S. Open tee times

Sunday: (a) denotes amateur
Final Round

7:45 a.m. — Dylan Wu, James Nicholas
7:56 a.m. — Peter Uihlein, Russell Henley
8:07 a.m. — Patrick Rodgers, (a) Eric Lee
8:18 a.m. — Neal Shipley, Hideki Matsuyama
8:29 a.m. — Adrien Dumont de Chassart, Nico Echavarria
8:40 a.m. — Caleb Surratt, Ben James
8:51 a.m. — Jackson Van Paris, Spencer Tibbits
9:02 a.m. — Kurt Kitayama, Max Greyserman
9:18 a.m. — (a) Marek Fleming, Jacob Bridgeman
9:29 a.m. — Johnny Keefer, Ludvig Åberg
9:40 a.m. — Ryan Fox, Angel Hidalgo
9:51 a.m. — (a) Miles Russell, (a) Jackson Koivun
10:02 a.m. — Robert MacIntyre, Chris Gotterup
10:13 a.m. — Harry Higgs, Andrew Putnam
10:24 a.m. — Michael Brennan, Jordan Spieth
10:35 a.m. — Bud Cauley, Ben Kohles
10:51 a.m. — Cameron Young, Joaquín Niemann
11:02 a.m. — Laurie Canter, Justin Thomas
11:13 a.m. — William Mouw, Niklas Nørgaard
11:24 a.m. — Max McGreevy, Justin Rose
11:35 a.m. — Ben Griffin, Tyrrell Hatton
11:46 a.m. — Pierceson Coody, Dustin Johnson
11:57 a.m. — Ryo Hisatsune, Gary Woodland
12:13 p.m. — Akshay Bhatia, Rory McIlroy
12:24 p.m. — Maverick McNealy, Brian Harman
12:35 p.m. — Zac Blair, Aaron Rai
12:46 p.m. — John Parry, J.T. Poston
12:57 p.m. — Sungjae Im, Michael Kim
1:08 p.m. — (a) Ryder Cowan, Alex Fitzpatrick
1:19 p.m. — Corey Conners, Keegan Bradley
1:35 p.m. — Matt Fitzpatrick, Collin Morikawa
1:46 p.m. — Tommy Fleetwood, Xander Schauffele
1:57 p.m. — Sam Burns, Keith Mitchell
2:08 p.m. — Emiliano Grillo, Sam Stevens
2:19 p.m. — Tom Kim, Sahith Theegala
2:30 p.m. — Scottie Scheffler. Wyndham Clark

Phil Mushnick

EQUAL TIME

HAPPY PLACE

Title makes Garden boss more visible, less spiteful

RAIN on his parade or parade on his reign?

Don't know if he's able to provide an objective self-inspection, but Jimmy Dolan should cease his sudden public me-dancing to thank Leon Rose and Jalen Brunson for his overnight face-lift.

This is the time of year when Dolan would go underground, unavailable to the media and the public. Cablevision, owned by his father Charles, purchased the Garden in 1994. By 1995 Jimmy was the CEO of the company, which oversaw the Garden — even if he didn't officially become Garden Chairman until 1999. So he has been in a seat of power since the year *after* a Garden team, the Rangers, won a championship.

In team years, that's 60 years of futility, 30 years each for the Rangers and Knicks, years in which Dolan spent raising prices, blindly firing valuable customer-friendly good guys and gals, replacing them with "Yes, boss" servants until they, too, were fired, or resigned due to their inability to further compromise their skills to serve a know-it-all master who knew nothing — an empty Garden come playoffs time as proof.

Thirty years, two teams, 60 seasons of, "See ya next season, suckers."

And throughout it all, Dolan sat in the first row — what's known in poker as "a tell" — then disappeared, except to fire a VIP bar/restaurant monitor for the sin of not knowing who he is. She was rehired the next day — after The Post shamed him for it.

Former Garden bosses, including Sonny Werblin and Bob Gutkowski, always chose to watch from more modest positions. They understood that the biggest-ticket customers — aka "guests" — belonged in the best seats.

Those were good days to be in the Garden. One felt like a human being, even getting to know the guards at the media entrance by their first names.

But that was before Dolan.

When Dolan entered, well-reasoned paranoia struck, looking over one's shoulder became a conditioned habit among all once-welcoming, friendly employees — before they, too, were "disappeared" by Dolan. Only hem-kissing sycophants survived. Oh, and spies.

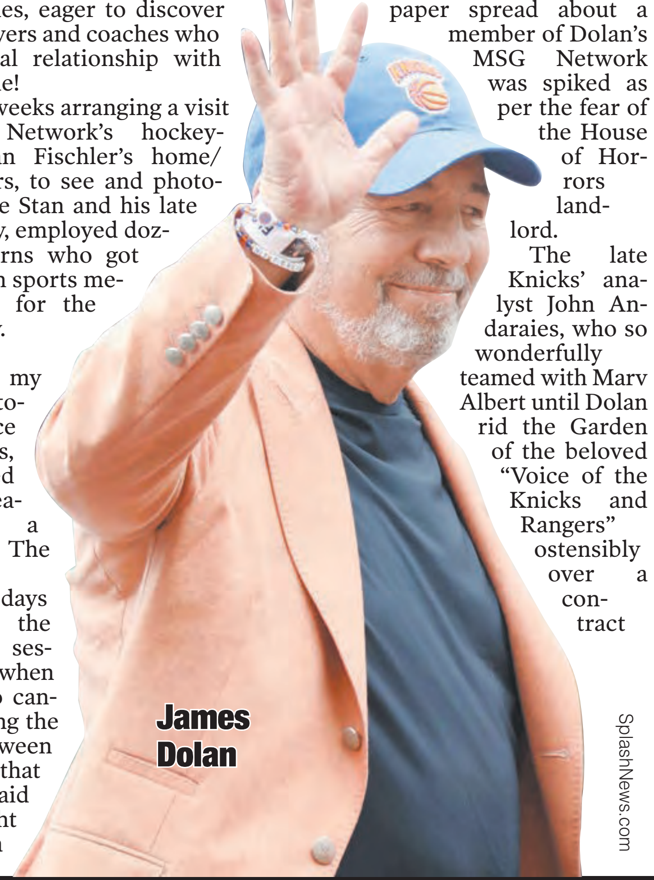
Frank Isola, now with ESPN and always unafraid of speaking candid truths, covered the Knicks in those days for the Daily News, and was a writes-it-as-it-is must-read, often critical of Dolan's decisions.

Dolan or one of his useful idiots ordered security to tail Isola during Knicks games, eager to discover leaks or players and coaches who had a genial relationship with him. Imagine!

I'd spent weeks arranging a visit to MSG Network's hockey-headed Stan Fischler's home/headquarters, to see and photograph where Stan and his late wife, Shirley, employed dozens of interns who got their start in sports media slaving for the opportunity.

Fischler, among my hockey go-to-guys since the 1970s, was thrilled to be so featured in a spread in The Post.

Until two days before the scheduled session. That's when he called to cancel, providing the "just between us" excuse that he was afraid Dolan might see him as a friend of a media devil out to get him, a reason to fire him.



James Dolan

SplashNews.com

He apologized for his cowardice, explaining that he's paranoid. "Everyone in the place is."

So a nice Sunday newspaper spread about a member of Dolan's MSG Network was spiked as per the fear of the House of Horrors landlord.

The late Knicks' analyst John Andaraies, who so wonderfully teamed with Marv Albert until Dolan rid the Garden of the beloved "Voice of the Knicks and Rangers" ostensibly over a contract dispute, was another.

One day while speaking with Andariese — who I'd known and held friendly, often funny conversation for years — he prefaced our phone conversation with a warning: We weren't alone. A third party was listening in — new Dolan Empire rules, all phone conversations with media had to be monitored by Kremlin-like stooges.

"What!? Seriously?!"

"Yes," he answered.

I refused to abide by such an edict, so I decided to interview the third party, demanding that the monitor check in.

"I'm here," she said. Then I began to bust her chops about her membership in Dolan's KGB, asking about her security clearance and credentials while Andariese was heard laughing.

It was great fun, and she was a good egg, laughing, too, at such a pathetic assignment. She was a good person assigned by Dolan to perform a dirty job.

I told her that the Garden, pre-Dolan, was a great place to work. "So I've heard," she said, off the record — the record she'd been tasked to provide Dolan's secret police.

But now Dolan is half Dancing Harry half Zorro unmasked, eager to have the once-evil media recognize him as the inspirational leader of these championship Knicks, when for 30 years of two teams' management dysfunction he served as the deterrent to the Knicks' and Rangers' success.

And, of course, local media fools rush in. Key to the city! Canyon of Heroes!

But, geez, why for 30 years — 60 in team years — did Dolan choose to suppress such inspired leadership?

What a sorry demand

BRIAN Cashman must apologize to **Aroldis Chapman**? For what? The Yankees acquiring him a year after he was suspended 30 games for firing eight bullets into a window to show his girlfriend he was serious? He's lucky to still be employed by the Red Sox for $13 million per.

➤ I keep trying to better suffer **Michael Kay**'s backup, **Ryan Ruocco**, but he continues to sound as if he won a kids' Announcer for a Day contest.

➤ These two new mid-half World Cup game "hydration safety stoppages" — many unneeded, especially in games played under roofs — often feel like excuses to sell more TV ad time within a game that doesn't provide natural opportunities.

➤ The HR or K Game of the Week: Monday the Tigers hit five home runs but struck out 18 times — !!! — versus five Astros' pitchers.

➤ Reader **Joseph Napoleone**:

"Can you imagine **Joe DiMaggio** or **Mickey Mantle**, after a home run, running the gauntlet in the dugout wearing an orange construction helmet [the last-place Mets have switched to a Spider-Man mask] while slapping hands with teammates down the line?"

Joe, I can't even imagine **Mickey Stanley** doing that!

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Harden makes it hard to root for him

FOR WHAT it's worth, in 2017 I wrote a column in which **Moses Malone Jr**. claimed he was set up by **James Harden**'s pals for a 3 a.m beating outside a now-shuttered Houston bar and strip club.

According to Malone, Harden was angry that he posted a Facebook complaint that Harden's basketball camp for kids was too expensive for poor kids.

The club's bouncer, **Darian Blount**, with several prior arrests, was then, according to Malone, promised $20,000 by Harden to lead a group assault in which Malone was beaten and robbed of $50,000 in jewelry.

Blount, with his prior arrests serving as impetus, was sentenced to 35 years for the attack on Malone. Harden wasn't charged in the incident.

Last week Harden was arrested in Houston at 3:45 a.m., charged with carrying an unconcealed gun in his car. Harden's attorney will again be Cowboy-dressed **Rusty Hardin** — a bombastic, self-promoting Texas lawyer of last resort for luminaries such as **Deshaun Watson** and **Roger Clemens**.

Before the Congressional hearing on Clemens' alleged illegal steroid use, Hardin treated Congressional panelists like simple-minded morons, and in some cases he was right, as Congressmen and their staff posed for photos with Clemens and asked for his autograph. Unreal.

But it's all a con, ain't it?

PUT A' ON B-TEAM

Stats hint at Gelof decline, not breakout

Jarad Wilk

Fantasy Insanity

IMAGINE you're looking for a new apartment and an ad for a reasonably priced two-bedroom rental pops up on Facebook Marketplace. The pictures look incredible. The kitchen has all new appliances, the living room looks spacious and the floors are shiny. The bathroom and master bedroom look enormous. You inquire and schedule a visit.

When you step foot in the unit, you notice the windows are dusty and cracked, and wires are hanging from the ceiling in every room. The kitchen looks like it was previously updated the last time the Knicks won the NBA title before this past week and the floors look like they were (maybe) scrubbed around then, too.

To top it all off, there's a guy named Marv in the living room watching episodes of "The Golden Palace" on YouTube, and he apparently "comes with" the apartment.

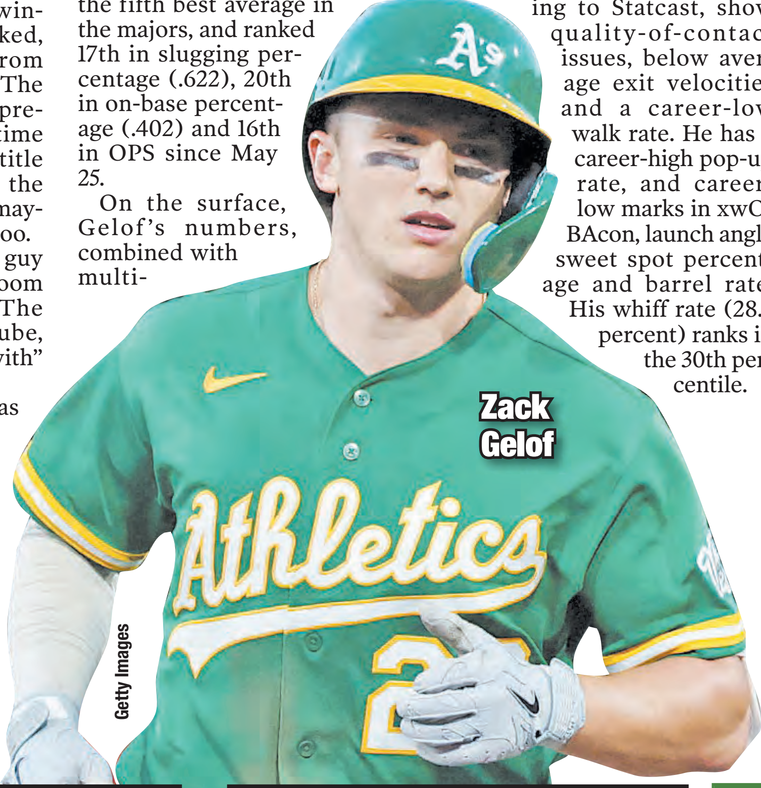
Everything is not always as it seems.

The Athletics' Zack Gelof has been surprisingly productive, hitting .286 with 11 homers, 29 RBIs, 36 runs, eight stolen bases and an .844 OPS in his first 59 games. He has looked like the player we saw as a rookie in 2023 when he hit .267 with 14 homers, 14 stolen bases and an .840 OPS over 69 games.

Gelof entered the weekend on a 21-game hit streak, during which he hit .366 with five homers, 12 RBIs, 14 runs, two stolen bases and a 1.024 OPS. Despite striking out 26.4 percent of the time and owning a 4.6 percent walk rate during that stretch, he owned the fifth best average in the majors, and ranked 17th in slugging percentage (.622), 20th in on-base percentage (.402) and 16th in OPS since May 25.

On the surface, Gelof's numbers, combined with multi-position eligibility, make him an appealing fantasy option. It is why he was the most added hitter in ESPN leagues as of Friday morning. But a look under the hood tells a different story — and not a happy one about a player reaching new heights.

Though his strikeout rate (25 percent) is a career-best mark, and he is chasing a career-low number of pitches, Gelof's expected stats, according to Statcast, show quality-of-contact issues, below average exit velocities and a career-low walk rate. He has a career-high pop-up rate, and career-low marks in xwOBAcon, launch angle sweet spot percentage and barrel rate. His whiff rate (28.3 percent) ranks in the 30th percentile.



Zack Gelof

Getty Images

The .062 difference between his average (.286) and expected average (.222) is the largest in the league, according to Statcast, suggesting he has had a lot of good fortune. The 26-year-old owned a .510 slugging percentage before Friday but a .385 xSLG — the .122 difference being the second-largest in the majors. The .075 difference between his wOBA, which measures a hitter's offensive value by assigning run values to every way a player can reach base, and xwOBA was tied with Mickey Moniak for the largest in the league.

Gelof also has benefited from playing 15 of the 21 games of his hit streak at hitter-friendly parks in Sacramento and Las Vegas, a stadium where 35 homers were launched and 102 runs were scored in six games (including Gelof hitting .346 with three homers, four RBIs and a 1.178 OPS). He has hit .321 with a .938 OPS at home, but .241 with a .726 OPS on the road.

This is also a player who entered this season as a career .225 hitter with a .684 OPS. Gelof's track record in the majors is not extensive, but the underlying numbers support regression, not a breakout.

Roto Rage believes Gelof should be considered a short-term rental (or relegated to being in your lineup when playing at home). Ride his hot bat for as long as you can, but don't be shocked when his numbers fall off.

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BIG HITS

Paul Goldschmidt 1B, Yankees

Took a 10-game hit streak into Friday and had at least one hit in 19 of his previous 20 games — when he hit .349 with 22 RBIs and a .967 OPS.

Willi Castro 1B/2B/3B/SS/OF, Rockies

Hit .340 with three homers, 12 RBIs and a 1.048 OPS in his first 14 games this month, and .354 with 15 RBIs and a .960 OPS in 22 games before Friday.

Gage Jump SP, Athletics

Allowed more than one earned run in one of his four starts this month while going 3-0 with a 1.42 ERA, .143 opponents' average and 0.79 WHIP.

Chase Burns SP, Reds

Didn't allow more than two earned runs — or suffer a loss — in 11 starts since April 10. He went 7-0 with a 1.68 ERA, 30.9 percent strikeout rate, .186 opponents' average and 15 percent swinging-strike rate in that span.

BIG WHIFFS

Jack Leiter SP, Rangers

Allowed five homers and a .328 opponents' average while walking 4.6 per nine and going 0-3 with a 9.88 ERA in his first three starts this month.

Michael Wacha SP, Royals

Allowed three or more runs in each of his past four starts, going 0-3 with a 6.46 ERA, 4.6 strikeouts per nine and a .323 opponents' average.

Merrill Kelly SP, Diamondbacks

Last win came on May 25, and he was 0-3 with a 7.06 ERA, 4.6 K/9, 3.3 BB/9, seven homers allowed and a .315 opponents' average.

Ildemaro Vargas 1B/2B, D'backs

Hit .340 with seven homers, 31 RBIs and a .902 OPS over his first 40 games this season, but his average fell to .261 after going 5-for-68 (.074) with no homers, six RBIs and a .268 OPS in his next 24 games.

CHECK SWINGS

- Giants rookie **Bryce Eldridge** had at least one RBI in seven of his past eight games before Friday, going 13-for-31 (.419) with four homers, 10 RBIs, six runs, a 4-6 strikeout-walk rate and 1.384 OPS.
- Cardinals right-hander **Dustin May** allowed one earned run or less, and struck out nine, in three of his past four starts. He is 2-1 with a 1.30 ERA, 0.58 WHIP, 33.3 percent strikeout rate, 4 percent walk rate, .128 opponents' average and a 12.9 percent swinging-strike rate in that span.
- **Bryan Reynolds** took a nine-game hit streak into the weekend during which he hit .405 with four homers, eight RBIs, eight runs and a 1.301 OPS. He hit .364 with six homers, 15 RBIs, 20 runs, two stolen bases and a 1.133 OPS in his first 24 games since May 22.

TEAM NAME OF THE WEEK

Look At This Sotograph

Submit to jwilk@nypost.com

Make a run on rookies

IF YOU have a fantasy baseball fever, the only prescription you need is more rookies. You might think it's akin to more cowbell, but investing in rookie call-ups has become the ultimate cheat code for fantasy managers seeking a competitive edge.

Historically, picking up prospects from the waiver wire felt like a volatile gamble, often resulting in a tanked batting average or a swift demotion back to the minor leagues. Nevertheless, the success rate for rookies has reached an unprecedented high. The secret behind this sudden surge lies in the massive technological advancements implemented across player development departments. If you are looking to capitalize on this tech-fueled revolution, two newly promoted infielders deserve your immediate attention.

FANTASY ALARM

Howard Bender

The Cardinals recently called up Blaze Jordan to inject life into their infield, and his minor league data suggests he is built to sustain this success. Before his promotion, Jordan tore through his 2026 minor league season with a .313 batting average, 11 home runs, and 35 RBIs in 230 at-bats. If your fantasy squad needs corner infield power and a boost in batting average, make Jordan a priority target.

If middle infield depth or speed is your primary concern, look no further than Cooper Pratt of the Brewers. The 21-year-old shortstop was promoted on the heels of a highly sophisticated developmental track in Milwaukee's farm system, which utilizes proprietary motion-capture data to maximize an athlete's kinetic chain.

Pratt is a highly cerebral player with elite baseball IQ and a mature approach at the plate. Though his game is still tailored toward a high on-base percentage and gap-to-gap line drives, his physical 6-foot-4 frame offers immense ceiling as he continues to grow into his power.

Do not hesitate to drop underperforming veterans for these tech-tailored prospects.

Howard Bender is the head of content at FantasyAlarm.com. Follow him on X @rotobuzzguy and catch him on the award-winning "Fantasy Alarm Radio Show" on the SiriusXM fantasy sports channel weekdays from 6-8 p.m. Go to FantasyAlarm.com for all your fantasy baseball news and advice.

Give USGA their due for keeping course playable

By MARK CANNIZZARO

The memo appeared on the players' phones sometime after the end of U.S. Open second-round play Friday at Shinnecock Hills.

The warning, from the desk of the USGA, read:

"For Saturday & Sunday, the golf course will be prepared to play progressively firmer and the target green speed will be 11.0 on the USGA Stimpmeter."

A loose translation of those words could go something like this: "OK, we've let everyone have their fun for the first two days and now it's time for you to experience some suffering."

Dylan Wu was the first player among the 72 who made the cut to tee off Saturday at 9 a.m. off No. 1.

When he arrived at the first green of the usually benign par-4 starting hole, he five-putted and limped to the second tee with a quadruple-bogey 8.

The scene brought back memories of the great Seve Ballesteros at the 1986 Masters when he four-putted the par-3 16th green and was asked how he did it.

"I miss the putt. I miss the putt. I miss the putt. I make," Ballesteros deadpanned.

There was some cruel irony to Wu's five-jack on No. 1 since he'd made a clutch 7-footer for a par save on the 18th hole to close out his second round Friday to make the cut on the number, at 4 over par.

"I was super happy to make the cut — got up and down on the last hole to make it," Wu said after shooting 82.

The five-putt?

"I knew the greens were sped up and thought I had a pretty good first putt and then it just turned into tic-tac-toe out there," Wu said. "I was like, 'What's going on right now?' It was not a fun moment."

That said, Wu refused to complain about the setup, instead praising the USGA, which is somewhat of a novel concept — particularly at Shinnecock for a U.S. Open.

The USGA has famously made itself a part of the U.S. Open story at Shinnecock for all the wrong reasons (see: 2004 hole No. 7 and 2018 Phil Mickelson meltdown).

If we were going to skewer the USGA for those famous faux pas — and we have — it's only fair to praise the job it's done this week, proceeding with prudence and caution into the week with course setup.

The first two days, with super-windy conditions in Thursday's opening round, it set pins in the most accessible places and moved some tee boxes forward to combat the conditions. The greens were kept to 10.0 to 10.5 on the Stimpmeter the first two days to keep them as receptive as possible.

To its credit, the USGA also has been transparent all week about course setup, right down to that memo it sent the players Friday night.

"I don't think it was too out of hand," Wu said.

"I think the setup has been good," Rory McIlroy said after his second round Friday. "I would say that the storyline over the first two days hasn't really been the setup. It's been the golf course."

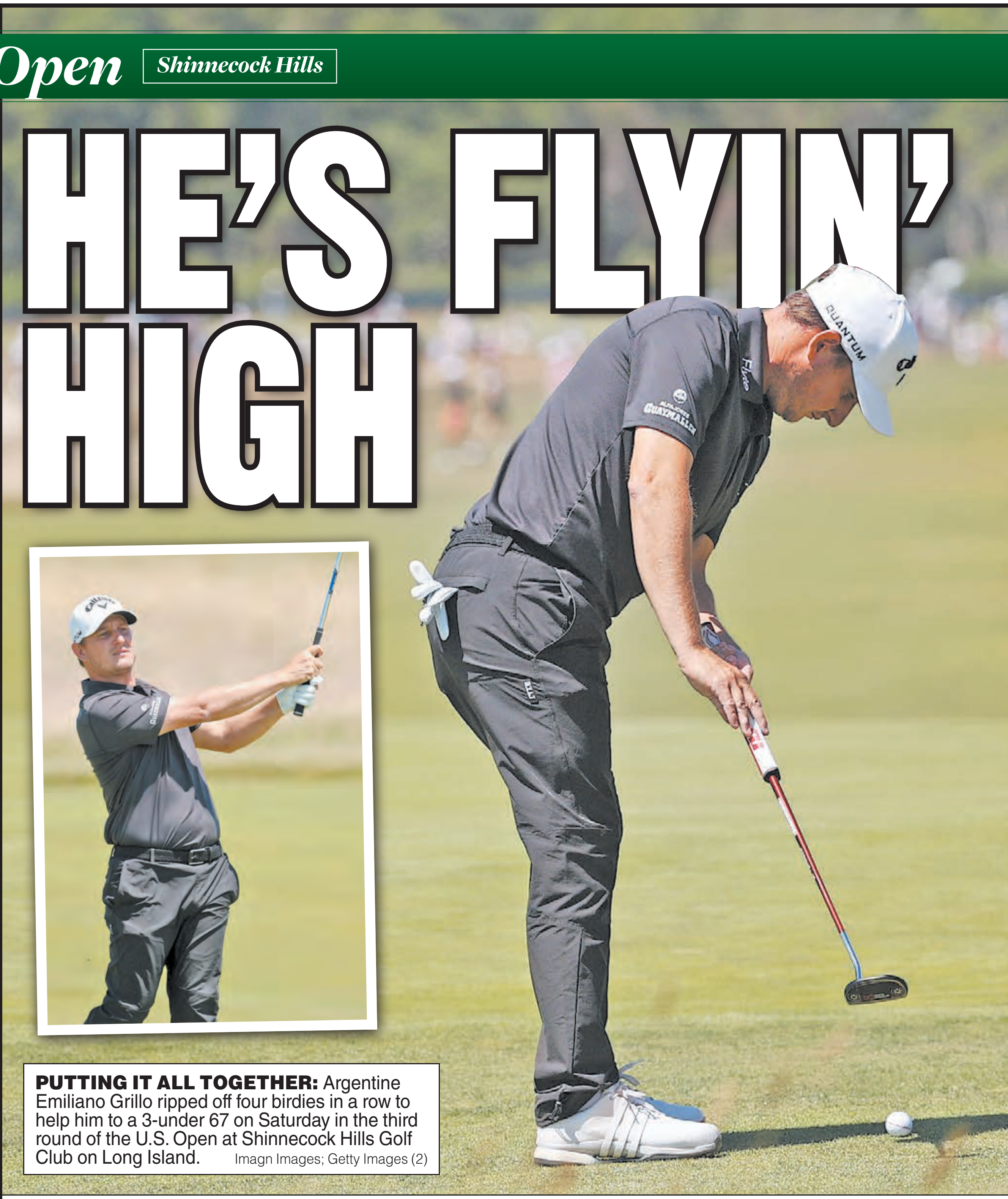
Tommy Fleetwood, the runner-up to 2018 winner Brooks Koepka, said he was "surprised on Monday" to see how soft the greens were.

"The course was very, very soft and slow, but they've clearly judged it perfectly," he said.

Neither the course nor the setup suited Irishman Shane Lowry, who missed the cut Friday.

"I'm not enjoying it," Lowry said. "I didn't have any fun this week. I find the course very hard, to be honest. It's a very stressful golf course."

HE'S FLYIN' HIGH



PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER: Argentine Emiliano Grillo ripped off four birdies in a row to help him to a 3-under 67 on Saturday in the third round of the U.S. Open at Shinnecock Hills Golf Club on Long Island. Imagn Images; Getty Images (2)

U.S. OPEN NOTES

McIlroy's round takes ugly

By ANDREW CRANE

Rory McIlroy's up-and-down weekend at the U.S. Open took another roller coaster of a turn Saturday, as the world No. 2 imploded on the back nine with five bogeys to finish at 3 under and fall out of contention.

McIlroy, whose only win in the tournament occurred in 2011 at Congressional Country Club, sank a 66-foot birdie on No. 6 as part of a string of three consecutive birdies, but he went from potentially playing in one of the final pairings to an earlier tee time for the final round at Shinnecock Hills Golf Club.

It marked a second consecutive day when McIlroy struggled after the turn, after finishing the back nine even during the opening round of the U.S. Open. He shot 3 over across those holes Saturday, even recording a double bogey on No. 15. And while he avoided another double during the third round, McIlroy bogeyed Nos. 10, 12, 14, 15 and 18.

McIlroy finished in the top 10 at both of the majors earlier this season, winning the Masters — his second consecutive victory in the tournament — and finishing in a tie for seventh at the PGA Championship last month.

➤ One year after a top five finish at the U.S. Open, **Cam Young** won't be anywhere near there when Sunday begins. That means the search for the long-awaited first major of his career will likely extend into the British Open next month.

The Westchester native and third-ranked golfer struggled again Saturday in the third round, finishing 3 over and moving to 5 over for the tournament. And after winning two tournaments — the Players Championship and the Cadillac Championship earlier this

Grillo plays himself into contention with 4 birdies to close out front nine

By ANDREW CRANE

It was hard for Emiliano Grillo to miss. There are televisions in the locker room and the dining room. So before he teed off in the ninth pairing Saturday, he was already aware of the damage that Shinnecock Hills Golf Club — and its wind and firm greens — had done.

He saw Dylan Wu record an 8 on the first hole after four-putting. He saw Chris Gotterup step back from his ball and watch it roll away. Then, Grillo went out and became one of the first golfers to conquer the new-look Shinnecock, ripping off four birdies in a row to close the front nine and play himself into contention for the final round Sunday.

EMILIANO GRILLO

Grillo — who shot a 3-under 67 — is seven shots behind leader Wyndham Clark in a tie for sixth and was one of only two golfers to shoot under par Saturday. And for the 33-year-old Argentine, who has won two PGA Tour events — with his last in 2023 — and has finished in the top 10 in a major just once, it'll give him at least a chance heading into Sunday.

"You kind of know what you're going to find out there, and it's kind of nice seeing that on TV before going out," Grillo said. "That always helps."

But don't ask Grillo about the U.S. Open in 2018, when he shot a 76 and 73 to finish 9 over and miss the cut by a stroke. It was a blur and he "hated every minute of it." Eight years later, though, he built on his even-par round Friday and started to make his move on the sixth hole.

Grillo hit what he described as the "shot of the year" with his second shot at the hole, going from 212 yards to within 2 feet of the pin. Then, he followed with birdie putts of just under 8 feet, just over 18 feet and just under 25 feet to keep climbing the leaderboard.

It might be tough to catch Clark. It might be tough to move past some of the others ahead of him. Grillo is the first to admit that it's tough to beat some of those golfers, that it takes someone being on top of their game and then getting lucky. After winning the Frys.com Open to start the 2015-16 slate, it took Grillo another eight years to win his next PGA Tour event. The 2023 British Open — when he tied for sixth — still serves as his best performance in a major.

But anchored by the four birdies Saturday, he'll have a chance to change that.

"Obviously when you stand on the 10th tee with 4 under par in the U.S. Open," Grillo said, "you're just rushing to get it done and finish it. … 3 under par or any under par in a U.S. Open, you'd always take it."

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turn for worse after turn

year — Young has faltered for a second consecutive event after shooting 8 over at the Memorial Tournament earlier this month.

"I don't know, I didn't play awful, didn't play great and I'm not in a great spot going into [Sunday]," Young said following his round.

➤ **Sahith Theegala** is positioned for the best major appearance of his career after shooting an even-par 70 to sit in a tie for second place — at 1 under — heading into Sunday.

"Honestly I was just hoping I would get into the tournament," Theegala said following his round.

➤ **Emiliano Grillo** joined **Dustin Johnson** — in the opening round — as golfers to make four consecutive birdies this week, per the Elias Sports Bureau. **Dylan Wu** and **James Nicholas** recorded the worst scores of the third round from the earliest tee times, finishing at 12 over. … New Jersey native **Chris Gotterup** shot 3 over to sit at 7 over heading into the final round.

➤ **Sam Stevens** shot 2 over to sit in a tie for second at 1 under entering Sunday, positioning the 29-year-old with a chance to top his previous best in a major — when he was in a tie for 23rd at last year's U.S. Open.

Wells 'likely' to play today after missing 2 weeks

By DAN MARTIN

Austin Wells is expected to be back with the Yankees on Sunday after being sidelined for the past two weeks with cervical headaches.

Aaron Boone said Saturday that Wells would "likely" be in the lineup in The Bronx for their series finale against the Reds after appearing in three minor league rehab games with Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre.

After the Yankees lost 10-2 to Cincinnati on Saturday with Ali Sánchez behind the plate, the Yankees optioned J.C. Escarra to SWB — leaving the righty-swinging Sánchez on the roster for now.

Just getting Wells back, though, doesn't necessarily solve the Yankees' season-long issues behind the plate.

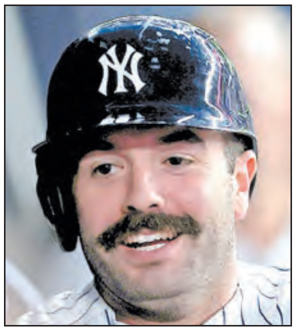
Even when healthy, Wells has slumped badly offensively.

Of the 241 players with at least 160 plate appearances entering Saturday, only three had a lower OPS than Wells' .533.

He has been working on his approach while with SWB and the Yankees are hoping for improved results.

But Wells' former teammate, Jose Trevino, said even when he's not hitting, Wells is vital to the Yankees' success.

"I had a conversation with him in '24 toward the beginning of the season about the value of him and his presence," said Trevino, now with the Reds.



AUSTIN WELLS

"He's gonna be there," Trevino said. "He's gonna bounce back. I have no doubt. He's gonna hit a homer, make a defensive play or call a good game."

That presence, Trevino said, has played a significant role in how well the Yankees have pitched as a whole.

"Look at what their starters are doing, the staff," Trevino said. "At the beginning of the year, all those zeroes on the board, who calls those pitches? They have a great staff, but he's the guy coordinating all that. I think some people overlook that. He's a very important part of that team and they need him."

With Wells out, Escarra has also struggled at the plate and the journeyman Sánchez picked up his fifth hit in three games Saturday, but isn't the answer back there, either.

But the duo helped the Yankees continue to perform well overall, especially on the mound.

Prior to Wells being sidelined, the Yankees had a 3.30 ERA, fourth in the majors.

Since Wells has been out, it was 3.27, good for second in the majors.

Still, the Yankees are high on Wells' ability to frame pitches — even in the ABS era — and some metrics have Wells among the best in the league.

"That stuff is so valuable," Trevino said.

Asked whether all he's asked to do on defense might take away from his offense, Trevino said, "That's the nature of the beast. You're in charge of the [pitching] staff."

The Yankees know Wells is capable of more power with his lefty swing.

In the three games with SWB, Wells went hitless twice, but also hit a pair of homers.

Domínguez 'work in progress' in right

By DAN MARTIN

YANKEES NOTES

Jasson Domínguez is going through some growing pains in right field, as he overran a liner there Friday in The Bronx — although he made the catch.

On Saturday, he made a fine catch on JJ Bleday's liner to right, but an errant throw to second prevented a potential inning-ending double play.

Domínguez said he rushed the throw and despite the issues, he added right field "feels more natural" than left after he came up as a center fielder in the minors.

Domínguez started one game in right with Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre in 2024 and then just three times this season at SWB.

Aaron Boone said Domínguez has been "pretty good" in right, where he got the start again Saturday against Cincinnati. "You see his speed come into play. Overall, he's played pretty well. It's early. He's still a work in progress there."

Despite his inexperience at the position, Domínguez is embracing the opportunity.

"I want to be able to play as much as I can and I can give them more places to use me," Domínguez said. "I'm still learning, but I know you have to be able to do different things in the majors to get an opportunity, especially on this team. I just want to help."

The team's outfield instructor, Luis Rojas, has been encouraged.

"I'm very confident in him feeling very comfortable quickly," Rojas said. "I think he already is. Obviously, you want more experience for him there. Our right field [at the Stadium] plays a lot different than a lot of other places in the big leagues, but with his tools, his arm and ability to get to balls, I think it's gonna work well for him."

The Yankees are banking on it, with Aaron Judge sidelined with a fractured right rib and Trent Grisham out with a right hamstring strain.

➤ **Jake Bird** was optioned to SWB after Saturday's game. While the move was made to make room for Sunday's starter **Elmer Rodríguez**, the right-hander won't be able to come back to the major league roster for 15 days unless there's an injury to a pitcher that requires a stint on the injured list.

The Yankees have **Carlos Lagrange** transitioning to the bullpen at SWB and he's expected to join the major league bullpen as soon as next month.

➤ **José Caballero** was picked off second base to end the bottom of the second.

"That one should not happen," Boone said.

The 126th U.S. Open **Shinnecock Hills**

RUN LIKE THE

By ANDREW CRANE

When Wyndham Clark went into the final round of the U.S. Open in 2023, there were unknowns. He hadn't won a major before. He was tied atop the Los Angeles Country Club field — not carrying a lead at all, let alone the six-shot one he'll bring into Sunday at Shinnecock Hills Golf Club.

As Clark pushes for his second U.S. Open title in four years, he has, in a way, sucked the life out of the tournament. He shot an even-par 70 on Saturday, but with a late tee time and dusk approaching, the crowd had already started to filter out by the end of his round — something that Clark, who said he feeds off the energy, called unfortunate. His eagle on 16 lacked pop. There weren't many drama-filled moments. Scottie Scheffler, one of only two golfers to shoot under par in the third round, put himself in position to chase, but even the world No. 1's best might not be enough.

That's what an opening-round 64 can do at a notoriously difficult course. He leads Scheffler and a group of others by six shots, sitting 18 holes away from becoming the ninth wire-to-wire winner in U.S. Open history, according to Elias Sports Bureau.

"It was very up and down, holy smokes," Clark said. "I hit some good shots; I hit some terrible shots. ... At the end of the day, I improved my lead, which is awesome, and I shot even par on a very tough golf course."

LAUNCH PARTY: Wyndham Clark hits a shot on the third hole Saturday, as the former U.S. Open champ put a 6-shot cushion between himself and Scottie Scheffler at Shinnecock Hills. Getty Images (2)

Clark, who took on a villainous role last year when he destroyed a locker at Oakmont Country Club, did everything he could to avoid falling into the Shinnecock tracks that others succumbed to. He used several key pars to keep his lead intact, including three on the seventh, 10th and 11th holes that Clark said he was most proud of. Then, after bogeying the 15th hole, Clark delivered his signature moment on the 16th, when his shot from 275 yards out settled within feet for eagle.

Scheffler's play threatened to carve into Clark's advantage even more, though. Sitting a U.S. Open title away from the career Grand Slam, Scheffler bogeyed his first two holes but used a masterful back nine to save his round and weekend. He birdied the 10th hole, unleashed a loud roar and fist pump after doing the same on 14, narrowly missed an eagle putt on 16 and settled for a disappointing par on 18 after missing a putt 7 feet from the hole. Those two shots could loom large on Father's Day.

"We've been battling hard for a few days," Scheffler said when asked about whether he feels good going into Sunday, "and I did a good job of keeping myself in the tournament. I'll need a really nice round [Sunday] if I'm going to try and catch Wyndham."

If anything, Clark demonstrated that his dazzling opening round wasn't a fluke, even as fans started to filter out. He birdied the fifth hole Saturday to gain a stroke, bogeyed the eighth to lose it and then moved back to 7 under with a dazzling second shot on the 14th hole that curled back to within 5 feet of the pin after hitting the green.

"Sometimes it made it tough to stay really focused because it seemed like everyone was leaving," Clark said of the crowd, "and it was like the tournament was over, and I had to keep myself really focused and in the present."

This wasn't like Rory McIlroy, who fell out of contention with a 5 over on the back nine to fall to 3 over for the tournament. This wasn't like Cameron Young, the world No. 3 who stumbled in his latest chance to contend for a first major title.

The group of contenders around Clark, beyond Scheffler, eventually started to take shape. Sahith Theegala shot an even-par 70 to stay at 1 under with Scheffler, Tom Kim and Sam Stevens. Emiliano Grillo fired a 3-under 67 — the lowest score of the day that was anchored by four consecutive birdies to close his front nine — to get to even and a tie for sixth alongside Sam Burns, Xander Schauffele and Keith Mitchell.

But on a day that'll be defined by Shinnecock being vintage Shinnecock, Clark flashed enough of his vintage form to combat it. Because of that, the spotlight will belong to Clark on Sunday. And to this point, it has for the entire tournament, really.

"Hopefully [Sunday] it can be definitely a little more low key," Clark said, "and hopefully I can play some boring golf."

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U.S. Open tee times, full leaderboard / P. 65, 61

Scheffler sits in second waiting

Mark Cannizzaro

SURE, SCOTTIE Scheffler stands six shots behind leader Wyndham Clark entering Sunday's U.S. Open final round at Shinnecock Hills.

If you think that's insurmountable, you either don't know Scheffler very well or haven't been paying a lot of attention to golf the past three years as he's had a stranglehold on the world No. 1 ranking in Tiger Woods-like dominant fashion.

Different from the flash of Woods, no one makes better artwork of hanging around in big golf tournaments than Scheffler.

Clark will be acutely aware of that as he waits out the better part of Sunday for his tee time to finally arrive.

Scheffler is one of four players on the leaderboard standing at 1 under par and tied for second place chasing Clark, but he'll be the name Clark is most aware — and wary — of.

"Scottie is the best player in the world and he's going to play probably really good ... he always does," Clark said. "But it's nice to have a six-shot lead on him. I'm just going to keep approaching it the same way. If I go out and execute and go through my process and hit the shots I know I can hit, I like my chances."

There are a lot of significant gold-plated carrots dangling in front of Scheffler on Sunday.

A win and he becomes the seventh player in the history of golf to complete the career Grand Slam — winner of all four major championships, with only a U.S. Open trophy missing.

It's Father's Day, with Scheffler a proud dad of two sons, Bennett and Remy. His father, Scott, will be following him around the golf course in a scooter thanks to a recent broken hip suffered falling off a ladder.

Oh yes, and it's Scheffler's 30th birthday.

"It'd be special ... Father's Day ... a lot of stuff going on," Scheffler acknowledged after shooting a 1-under-par 69, one of just two players to break par in the third round among the 72 who made the cut. "I think it's appropriate to understand what's at stake. I've worked really hard for a long time to have a chance to win golf tournaments and to win major championships. I think understanding the moment and giving it your best shot I think is all part of the process.

"Yeah, Father's Day, my birthday ... I kind of lost a day there ... [I] only get one day to celebrate," he continued with a laugh. "We want to be in these positions. This is why

WYND’

Clark puts distance between chasing pack with one day to go at unforgiving Shinnecock

U.S. Open essentials

at Shinnecock Hills
Golf Club
Southampton, LI

Leaderboard
Second round

Wyndham Clark	-7
Scottie Scheffler	-1
Shahith Theegala	-1
Tom Kim	-1
Sam Stevens	-1
Noteables	
Xander Schauffele	E
Matt Fitzpatrick	E
Tommy Fleetwood	+1
Collin Morikawa	+1
Ryder Cowan (a)	+2
Rory McIlroy	+3
Dustin Johnson	+4
Justin Rose	+4
Justin Thomas	+4
Cameron Young	+5
Jordan Spieth	+6
Chris Gotterup	+7

On the air

9 a.m.-Noon, USA
Noon-7 p.m., NBC

Fore-cast

74 degrees, Partly sunny
15% chance of rain
Wind: W 11 mph

for his chance at career Slam

we practice and play, to have the opportunity to win golf tournaments, and that’s what tomorrow is.

“I have an opportunity to go out there and have a great round and give myself a chance to win the tournament.”

Scheffler has given himself a chance to win doing what he does best — relentlessly grinding and refusing to go away.

Before Saturday’s back nine, he had spent most of this week on the outside of being truly in contention.

And then there he was with a chip-in birdie on 14, then another birdie on 15 and another on 16, where he reached the 615-yard par 5 in two and had a 13-foot eagle putt that barely missed.

Scheffler’s animated, fist-pumping reaction to the chip-in on 14 was somewhat out of character for him, a usually flatliner.

There was a powerful emotional release to it, because it was clear he suddenly felt like he’d vaulted himself back into the tournament.

“We’ve been battling for three days now, and at that point, [I was] over par for the tournament and you can feel like it’s kind of slipping away,” Scheffler said. “To steal one there was really nice. I’ve been fighting like heck all week to stay in the tournament.”

He gave a shot back on 17 with a bogey out of a greenside bunker and squandered a great chance for birdie when his misread of a 4-foot putt on 18 slid past the hole to the right.

Yes, a missed opportunity, but make no mistake: Scheffler is not out of this tournament.

And no one knows that more than Clark, the 36- and 54-hole leader who’s trying to win his second U.S. Open title in four years.

Because Scheffler was the first of the players to finish 1 under, he’ll be paired with Clark in the final group.

“If you’re in the final group, that’s less people you’ve got to chase,” he said.

Don’t let Scheffler’s downplayed way of speaking about his desire to be in that final group fool you. Inside, he was burning to make that happen.

Scheffler is a docile soul on the outside, but those who know him best will tell you he’s so competitive he wants to step on throats and rip his opponents’ lungs out.

Asked how he liked his position entering Sunday, Scheffler said, “I mean, I’d rather be leading. [But] after three days ... we’ve been battling hard and I did a good job of keeping myself in the tournament.

“I’ll need a really nice round tomorrow if I’m going to try and catch Wyndham.”

He’ll need perhaps the round of his life.

Don’t rule that out.

Don’t count him out.

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ONE-MAN SHOW: Germany forward Deniz Undav (left) is swarmed by teammates after scoring his second goal of the game during World Cup Group E play against Ivory Coast on Saturday in Toronto, accounting for all of its offense in the victory. Getty Images

WAIT IS OVER

Germany back in KO stage for 1st time since '14

By LEXIE LINDERMAN

An hour into the game, Germany was getting outplayed by Ivory Coast and trailed by a goal.

Coach Julian Nagelsmann needed a spark and substituted in three fresh players, one of whom was Deniz Undav. That decision paid off big time.

Undav scored twice as Germany defeated Ivory Coast 2-1 on Saturday in Toronto and clinched a spot in the knockout phase at the World Cup.

GERMANY	**2**	**Group E**
IVORY COAST	**1**	

"It's important that everyone sees that even the players from the bench can decide games," said Undav, who also scored in Germany's 7-1 opening match rout of Curacao. "Now, we have a really important signal to the team. I think that's very important in a game like this."

Four minutes into stoppage time, Undav received a pass from Felix Nmecha in front of the net and rifled it past Ivory Coast goalkeeper Yahia Fofana to give the Germans a comeback win. It was the German national team's 11th straight win, a streak dating to September 2025.

Undav's first goal of the match came after Nadiem Amiri sent in a long ball — that striker Kai Havertz let pass him by — onto the boot of Undav, who slammed it into the back of the net in the 68th minute. Both Amiri and Undav had subbed on eight minutes earlier.

"Deniz is nobody who needs to be prepared," Nagelsmann said. "He can jump in right away."

Four-time champion Germany has come back from disappointing group stage exits in 2018 and 2022, while Ivory Coast is still searching for its first knockout stage appearance and could still qualify. The last time Germany got past the group stage it won the tournament in 2014.

"Think we showed great character today," Undav said. "We want to achieve the most."

Ivory Coast captain Franck Kessie opened the scoring in the 30th minute after midfielder Yan Diomande sent in a cross to forward Amad Diallo. His shot was blocked by Germany's Nathaniel Brown, but the ball bounced back to Kessie, who slotted it in the wide-open left corner of the net.

Germany had two goals waved off in a frustrating first half. The first was in the 21st minute when Fofana batted the ball into his own net, but Germany midfielder Aleksander Pavlovic made illegal contact with Fofana on the play.

The second came in the 38th minute on a foul, as Jamal Musiala was called for contact on the build-up to what would've been a Havertz goal.

After a court fight to get into Canada, Elye Wahi, the Ivory Coast striker under investigation for alleged betting-related offenses while playing in France for Nice, did not play.

— AP

Netherlands steamrolls Sweden to move atop Group F

Associated Press

WORLD CUP ROUNDUP

Under intense pressure after an opening-game draw, the Netherlands delivered a dominant performance against Sweden in the World Cup on Saturday in Houston to move atop the Group F standings.

Brian Brobbey and Cody Gakpo scored two goals apiece to power Netherlands to the 5-1 win.

Brobbey's goals came in the first half, helping the Netherlands get off to a great start and roll to the big win after playing Japan to a 2-2 draw Sunday.

The victory gives Netherlands a group-leading four points. Sweden has three points, with Japan and Tunisia scheduled to play later Saturday.

"It could be that the way we played builds confidence," Netherlands coach Ronald Koeman said. "Now we've got a slightly better piece of mind with the four points. You can build on what happened now and that's really good."

Gakpo, who also had an assist, extended the lead to 3-0 just after halftime, scoring in the 47th minute off a cross from Denzel Dumfries. He matched Brobbey when he scored on a right-footed shot from the left box in the 54th minute.

"Today there was more variation in attacking play, more players in different positions, movement and all those things," Gakpo said. "So it was maybe more difficult for the defenders to really mark us and we became free in in the box. I think that was the little thing maybe we missed in the last game."

Sweden's loss to the Dutch was its biggest World Cup defeat since losing 7-1 to Brazil in 1950.

Curacao 0, Ecuador 0

In Kansas City, Mo., Curacao goalkeeper Eloy Room made 15 saves against a relentless Ecuador attack, allowing The Blue Wave to earn a draw against the heavily favored La Tri and earn the tiny island nation its first-ever World Cup point.

The 37-year-old Room had one of the finest performances by a goalkeeper in World Cup history. His save total was one shy of the record — since saves became an official stat in 1966 — of 16 set by Tim Howard of the U.S. against Belgium on July 1, 2014.

The draw doesn't eliminate either team from knockout play, but it put Ecuador in dire shape going into its group finale. Those matches take place Thursday with Curacao facing Ivory Coast in Philadelphia and Ecuador playing Germany in New York.

NEW YORK POST

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Cup wins raise hopes, expectations for U.S.

By BRIAN LEWIS

SEATTLE — The U.S. national team is convinced it can win the World Cup.

Now the Americans are actually convincing others, outside their locker room.

Others like Swedish icon Zlatan Ibrahimovic, serving as a pundit on Fox.

Asked flatly Friday if the U.S. were capable of winning its first World Cup, the former striker and serial winner had a frank, one-word response.

"Yes," Ibrahimovic said after the United States' 2-0 victory over Australia that booked its advancement to the knockout round of 32.

Of course, they are aiming higher. Far higher. Having already clinched their group — for just the third time in their history — and doing it with a game to spare has raised the bar.

Thursday
TURKEY vs. UNITED STATES
in Inglewood, Calif.
Group D
10 p.m.
Fox

Think going from a hurdle to a high jump. Winning the World Cup would be more like a pole vault. But that's the target — one they're starting to get others to believe in, too.

"I mean, that's our mindset. I don't think you enter this tournament to not have that mindset," center back Auston Trusty said when told of Ibrahimovic's praise. Or was it a prediction?

"But we're taking it game by game, we're focusing ourselves, and that's all we can really do. To have him say that about us, that's amazing."

Ibrahimovic knows a fair share about winning. He earned 34 trophies in his career, though a World Cup was never one of them. The 44-year-old said the U.S. has a shot to accomplish something his Swedish teams never could.

"I said it before: Whatever happened before the World Cup is not as important as what happens now. Now is the momentum they have," Ibrahimovic said. "If you didn't believe before, I will repeat: Start believing. Have the country behind them."

The U.S. will close out Group D on Thursday at SoFi Stadium versus Turkey. But having already booked a knockout date versus a third-place foe has raised outside expectations to match their own.

"Every game, every tournament we play in, we want to win," center back Chris Richards said of Ibrahimovic's praise. "I don't think it's ridiculous to say that we want to win. "Obviously we have a lot more games before we get to that moment, but we take it one game at a time. We want to win a trophy at the end of this."

The U.S. will host its round of 32 match July 1 at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara against an undetermined opponent. It will be a third-place team from any of Groups B, E, F, I or J, leaving a myriad of up to 20 foes still on the board.

Whoever it is has onlookers expecting more, with 1994 captain Tony Meola saying a quarterfinal should be the goal and even Bruce Arena — who coached them to the 2002 quarterfinal — suggesting they could aim even higher.

"There's no reason to believe that we can't be a team that can get through the round of 32, challenge in the round of 16, and maybe dream of being in quarterfinals and possibly semifinals," Arena said Saturday on "Coaches' Corner."

"I don't think it's surprising to any of us. We've known what this team is capable of if we put everything together," center back Tim Ream said.

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LEAD THE WAY: Mauricio Pochettino celebrates the United States' victory over Australia, marking the first time the U.S. has won consecutive games at the World Cup in 96 years. The coach has helped Tyler Adams (right), Tim Ream (inset) and the American squad believe in their chances to win. Getty Images (3)

TIME WILL TELL: Alex Freeman and the United States have already advanced to the round of 32 and now will wait to see who they will play July 1. Reuters

Potential opponents for

By MICHAEL DUARTE

The United States men's national team has spent decades trying to convince the world it belongs among soccer's elite.

Now, after two matches at the 2026 FIFA World Cup, it is forcing everyone to pay attention.

Friday's 2-0 victory over Australia secured the Americans a place in the knockout stage with one group match still to play, something no U.S. team had accomplished before. Combined with Paraguay's 1-0 victory over Turkey, the U.S. officially clinched first place in Group D.

The accomplishment adds to a growing list of milestones for a team many have labeled America's "Golden Generation." Now attention turns toward July 1 and Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, Calif., where the Americans will face a third-place finisher from Groups B, E, F, I or J in the round of 32.

The overwhelming favorite remains the winner of Wednesday's game between Bosnia-Herzegovina and Qatar. If either side wins, it is almost certain to become the United States' next opponent.

Why? Well the answer is complicated, but before the tournament, FIFA published 495 possible permutations of all results, and in 60 percent of those permutations, the winner of Qatar and Bosnia-Herzegovina advanced to play the Americans in the round of 32.

A draw, however, would throw the door wide open and create a dizzying collection of possibilities stretching across Europe, Africa, Asia and South America.

So who would the United States want to see standing across the field in Santa Clara? Here's a look at the top 10 realistic possibilities

MASTER KEY

Pochettino has unlocked a foundation for belief with USMNT

Ethan Sears

IRVINE, Calif. — At so many points over the past year, Mauricio Pochettino had to ask people to trust in what he was doing and let his process play out.

The decision to use last summer's Gold Cup as a testing ground was, in some part, foisted on him — Christian Pulisic declined to go, others were injured or playing in the Club World Cup — but bringing in 14 players with five or fewer caps instead of something as close as possible to his best team was Pochettino's decision.

At so many points before and after, the Nations League last March, the South Korea loss last September, this team looked nowhere. The clock was ticking. The identity, as late as this March, hadn't fallen into place.

Now, after winning consecutive games at the World Cup for the first time in 96 years and clinching its group with one game still to play?

Look through the roster from the Gold Cup. Matt Freese, Alex Freeman and Sebastian Berhalter all came to that camp with zero caps for the senior national team. All three played in both of the first two World Cup games; Freese is the starting goalkeeper, Freeman scored in the 2-0 win against Australia on Friday and Pochettino said he "has potential to be one of the best players in his position in the world."

The tactical growing pains, the culture Pochettino sacrificed multiple camps to instill? It was all done to make sure the USMNT would arrive at the World Cup ready, and here it is: a flexible, versatile group that can lose Pulisic to injury, play in a two-striker setup it hasn't used before and be at ease.

"Someone had asked me after the South Korea game my thoughts on that, and very immediately [I] said we're all in total belief," Freese said. "We're all totally supportive and have faith in the process he's been outlining to us. Our task was to keep believing, keep working hard, keep trusting and we did that. I don't think at any point — there was never questions, anything like that."

Pochettino can put Malik Tillman deep in a defensive midfield partnership with Tyler Adams, build his tactical setup around Sergiño Dest being on the wing with Freeman behind him as a third center back, and start Ricardo Pepi alongside Folarin Balogun up top.

No one but no one had any of that on their bingo cards a year ago. But this is why U.S. Soccer opened its checkbooks — or rather, its donors' checkbooks — to bring in an accomplished manager with Pochettino's tactical acumen.

(By the way, AC Milan hired a manager last week, Ruben Amorim. Now would be a good time for Ken Griffin to reach into his pocket again, if it's not hurting too bad from the mayor's pied-a-terre tax.)

Until now, the USMNT's potential and talent have always been more of an idea than something truly realized. There was a Nations League win in 2021, a Gold Cup win the same year, a promising World Cup in 2022, plenty of players doing things at their club teams that made you believe, plenty of points where they looked like the top dog in CONCACAF.

But they never looked — they never came that close to looking — like a team that could make a real run at a World Cup, or beat some of the best countries in the world. The collection of names was impressive. The collective was just OK.

"I think if we want to win and we want to be one of the good teams, dreaming big, I think we all need to talk about the team," Pochettino said. "About the U.S. national team, and not the names."

Pochettino unlocked something on the field that wasn't there until his 26-man roster showed up in New York just under a month ago. The U.S. still needs that elusive statement win to announce itself, but what this team has accomplished so far in rendering its final group game a dead rubber, beating Paraguay and Australia emphatically and with tactical style, is a better foundation for belief than this program has had, possibly, ever.

"It's just a building thing," captain Tim Ream said. "There's not one specific moment. You take moments from all the games, from all the training sessions and you build with it. … You start to realize and put things together that, you know what, we have all the tools, all the pieces to do what we want to do and what's being asked of us."

We don't know where this run ends, when Pulisic will be back, whether this team will ultimately fulfill its potential.

What we do know is that the potential is no longer on paper. We've seen it now. This team, under this manager, can do something special.

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surging American squad in round of 32

from easiest to toughest:

1. Curacao (FIFA Ranking: 83)

The dream draw. Curacao's story has been the surprise of the tournament, but after a 7-1 shellacking by Germany, and its current ranking, it would be outmatched against the Americans.

2. Jordan (68)

Like Curacao, Jordan is competing in its first World Cup. Its run is impressive, but the talent gap is significant.

3. Bosnia-Herzegovina (64)

Bosnia has produced spirited performances but lacks the star power of previous generations. If Bosnia beats Qatar and lands here, the U.S. should enter as a clear favorite.

4. Iraq (60)

The Americans would have more quality, but Iraq's defensive discipline could turn the match into a tense, physical battle that stays close longer than expected.

5. Qatar (58)

The reigning Asian champions have World Cup experience and are comfortable absorbing pressure, but the U.S. would still have the better roster.

6. Tunisia (54)

Tunisia is organized, compact and difficult to play against. The U.S. would likely control the match but could find goals hard to come by.

7. Sweden (36)

This is where things start getting uncomfortable. Sweden's physicality, aerial dominance and tournament experience have troubled quality opponents for decades. Nothing would be easy in this matchup.

8. Algeria (31)

Algeria has enough matchwinners to punish mistakes and has a surprisingly strong attack.

9. Ivory Coast (30)

One of Africa's most talented squads, it is explosive and dangerous in transition.

10. Ecuador (29)

Ecuador might be one of the most underrated teams in the tournament, with a 19-game unbeaten streak that was snapped in a 1-0 loss to Ivory Coast.

The bottom line is that if Wednesday produces a winner between Bosnia-Herzegovina and Qatar, that is the most likely opponent for the United States. But if the match ends level, chaos ensues.

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SERBY'S SUNDAY Q&A WITH ...

Karl TOWNS Sr.

Karl Towns Sr. is the proud papa of NBA champion Karl-Anthony Towns, who was a key component in the team's playoff run — which snapped a 53-year championship drought. Papa Towns takes a shot at some Father's Day Q&A with Post columnist Steve Serby.

Q: Why do you think New York City fell in love with your son Karl-Anthony?
A: Because he's humble, caring, loving. And he wanted to bring something to New York that they've been thirsting for for 53 years. When he puts on that jersey, he knew every time he put it on he was representing his mother, the city, and he wanted to give them a chance to be where they were yesterday.

Q: What is the most memorable Father's Day you've had with KAT?
A: Ready for this? It's gonna be this Sunday, being a part of my son winning an NBA championship.

Q: What are your plans?
A: I don't need any plans. You know what my plans were? The parade yesterday, sitting there crying, emotional, seeing my son hold that trophy — something I dreamed it would happen one day, and to see it fulfilled, he don't have to do anything for me Father's Day. He just did it. Seeing him fulfill his mother's dream and me being a part of his dream ... I'm good.

Q: What was the highlight of the parade for you?
A: The highlight of the parade was watching my son finally hoist the Larry O'Brien Trophy. It was emotional for me because it was always a dream of his mother for him to play for the Knicks in a season. It was not only his dream of being an NBA champion, but his mother's dream. The whole thing was beautiful, but watching him walk out of City Hall with the trophy up high, that's when it hit me that he was a champion. It was a day I'll never forget. When he walked down the steps, it really hit me that my son had reached the pinnacle of the basketball world.

Q: What was it like on the float?
A: The float was a beautiful thing, because over the years, you watch all these other teams go down the Canyon of Heroes, but to know that this was a parade for the New York Knicks basketball program that never had a parade, and knowing that the whole city was honoring us, it was so emotional. And to see all these old players that played for the Knicks, it was so emotional that they could finally be part of a parade. And it was a parade for the *entire* Knick unit over the years, it wasn't just for us. And to see all of them come back, it was a great moment to be on that float and look behind me and see all of those former players who made the program what it was be a part of the biggest Knick celebration for basketball. ... You could see the joy in their face, as in our players ... a family reunion.

FAMILY AFFAIR: Karl-Anthony Towns hugs his dad Karl Sr. after winning the championship last week.

Q: What were your emotions on the float with your son?
A: I was crying and hugging him, saying, "Thank you for being yourself, and giving me a chance to be here, experiencing this moment with you. You made this possible for all of us, and I say, thank you, son. I love you, and you earned this day."

Q: He looked like he was having quite a fun time.
A: Best day of his life. Besides getting engaged to Jordyn [Woods].

Q: You lost your wife Jacqueline "Jackie" Cruz-Towns, and Karl-Anthony his mother, to COVID in 2020. Tell me about the two of you that day.
A: She was his mom and I lost my partner. I was more worried about his emotional state because that was his everything. Just know that he had to make a decision to let her go [from life support]. It was very hard. I hugged him and I told him, "Don't worry, I will ride with you until the day I die. You're never gonna be alone, I'll be there for you all the time. I know how hard it is for you, but she always told you no matter what to be strong." ... This championship healed him a lot. He was able to release a lot of the stuff that he couldn't see emotionally, but he released it to everybody, let them know that his mother is there, he could feel her presence. You don't forget it, the feeling never leaves you, but you have to be strong and move on, and I think that this championship and her being there healed him in a way that he really needed this to move forward.

Q: Describe her for me.
A: His mother was a ray of sunshine in his world ... a very hard-nosed, driven, outspoken, straightforward, straight shooter. Out of any Spanish mom, don't mess with her kids. You better come correct, because she will defend her kids to the end. She fought for every right for

KNICKS
NEW YORK

Charles Wenzelberg / NY Post (2)

all her kids. She was a great woman.

Q: What was it like when the Knicks traded for your son right before the 2024-25 season?
A: Knowing that we had been somewhere [Minnesota] for nine years, it was like we were moving, so I was emotional, but at the same time it's part of the business. I was more worried about how he felt. As a dad, you always want to support your son. As long as he was OK, I was OK. But we really weren't going to a new area, we were just going home [Piscataway, N.J.], because we were going back to the East Coast and we were from here anyway.

Q: You were in Minneapolis for the whole nine years with him?
A: Every basketball season I spent with him, yes.

Q: What were those nine years?
A: Cold! You know what, I call it probably the best years with me and my son because we were always there and we bonded.

Q: Best piece of advice you ever gave him?
A: Be yourself. Make all your own decisions. Don't let anybody make answers and decisions on your life for you, Be your own man.

Q: Describe his first state championship in high school.
A: Magical moment. He wanted to leave high school knowing that he had played on the No. 1 team in the state, and that night, I'll never forget in Trenton, they pulled it off.

Q: He played for the Dominican National team when he was 16.
A: He will not play for another team but the Dominican team because the Dominican team is his bond with his mother.

Q: What was draft day like in 2015?
A: Magical moment. Knowing that we were sitting there knowing that Minnesota was gonna have the first pick. He had a great workout in Minnesota. I'll never forget it. [Kevin] Garnett and everybody watched him, and just to hear his name called first — after all those years of playing in high school, college, all the great players around the country, to know that they felt that you were the No. 1 pick in the draft, you can never take that away from him. He will always be considered a No. 1 pick for the rest of his life.

Q: Your son's first NBA game.
A: Los Angeles Lakers in L.A. The thing I recall was watching him get his first basket as an NBA player, he made a steal and dunked. It's the most vivid memory because, as a father, you never ever think your son's gonna make it to the NBA. Once you score one basket in the NBA you're officially in the record books. I knew when he made that basket, his name was gonna be etched in the books forever.

Q: What were your emotions when you were cut by the Knicks.
A: I wasn't cut, I got hurt, so I didn't go to attend the camp. My ankle, unfortunately, I got injured. It hurt, but what was I gonna do? It wasn't meant to be. God has different plans for everybody. And the plan came out to be my son was supposed to play for the Knicks and win a championship.

Q: His first game as a Knick.
A: Magical moment. Because to me it was the moment — it was a full circle thing. It didn't happen to me, it happened to him. But to know that when he walked out there in that uniform that night he represented ... and this was his mother always wanted him to be — represent the New York Knicks and play in New York. To me it was an emotional night because he fulfilled her dream. She wasn't here ... but she was here. Because she's part of him. It was a moment I'll always remember. And she told him, "One day you're gonna play for New York and win a championship." It was a magical moment for everybody to see him come out in his first game in a Knick uniform.

Q: Near the end of Game 5 in San Antonio, your emotions.
A: I was right across from him, I looked at him, and the first thing he did was look up to the sky to his mom and said, "We did it!"

Q: And when you first saw him when the game ended?
A: We hugged, and I said, "She would be so proud of you right now." ... He said, "She's here."And you know what I told him? "I know."

Q: Did you take your son to the Garden?
A: My son ended up taking me to the Garden, how 'bout that?

Q: Three dinner guests?
A: My wife, my mother, my brother Kenny.

Q: Favorite movie?
A: "Love and Basketball."

Q: Favorite actors.
A: Denzel Washington. Spike Lee.

Q: Favorite actress?
A: Sandra Bullock.

Q: Favorite entertainer?
A: Michael Jackson.

Q: Favorite meal?
A: Spaghetti and sausage.

Q: What stands out to you about KAT's on-court mentality?
A: Pinpoint. Magic [Johnson] was always his idol. You could see out there he's always navigating like a GPS system, he's trying to make the right decision, right pass. I'm awed by some of the passes that he can get through to his players.

Q: What did you like best about these Knicks?
A: That nobody cared who starred, they just wanted to win.

Q: Do you think these guys can win it again next year?
A: Absolutely. Because you know what they built that a lot of teams don't have? A bond. Once you taste it, it's hard to let it go.

Route to repeat could be rocky

By JARED SCHWARTZ

The path cleared for the Knicks, and they took full advantage.

In winning the Eastern Conference (en route to winning the championship), they did not have to beat the No. 1 seeded Pistons — who owned them in the regular season — or the No. 2 seeded Celtics. The Pacers, who eliminated them from the playoffs the past two seasons, were a complete nonfactor. The Knicks were mostly healthy throughout the postseason.

Looking ahead, what are their chances to repeat as champions? What will affect those chances?

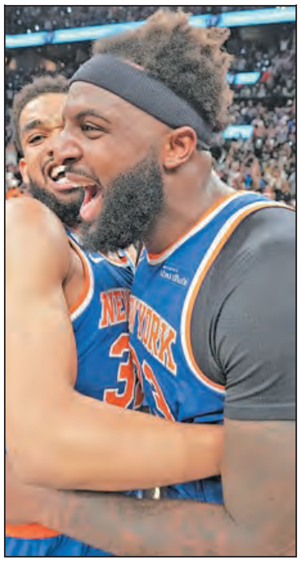
Let's break it all down:

The likely threats

Were the Pistons exposed as frauds in the playoffs, when they lost in seven games to the Cavaliers in the second round? Or was it a case of a young core improving on last year's finish but not yet being ready to be real title contenders? Cade Cunningham's supporting cast withered in the biggest moments, making them look one-dimensional offensively. Jalen Duren, who went from an All-NBA talent in the regular season to a shell of himself in the playoffs, is a restricted free agent.

The Celtics will have a full season of Jayson Tatum healthy. He returned to play 16 games in the regular season, but by the playoffs clearly wasn't fully right — he missed Boston's Game 7 loss to the 76ers in the first round with what was listed as knee stiffness. The Celtics overachieved — in the regular season — what was supposed to be a transition year. After two disappointing seasons following their championship, they will be hungry.

The Pacers, unlike the Celtics, fully embraced their gap year expectations and finished second-to-last in the East, playing the whole season without Tyrese Haliburton. Though a battle with shingles added a new wrinkle to his recovery, he should be ready to go by the start of next season.



WHO'S GOT NEXT? Mitchell Robinson celebrates the Knicks' championship. One of the early questions heading into next season's quest to repeat is if Robinson will be back. Getty Images

He and the Pacers have been the Knicks' boogeyman in recent years. The core that eliminated the Knicks last year — Haliburton, Pascal Siakam, Andrew Nembhard, Aaron Nesmith and T.J. McConnell — is all under contract for next year, plus they added Ivica Zubac (controversially) midseason.

The Cavaliers have a major decision about how they want to approach their next step. James Harden is expected to opt out of his $42.3 million player option for next year. Do the Cavs give him a huge multi-year deal, which he is presumably looking for? Harden largely struggled in the conference finals against the Knicks, his best basketball is behind him and he often comes up short in the biggest moments. If they don't bring him back, how do they plan to surround Donovan Mitchell with another star that can elevate them into contenders?

The variables

Giannis Antetokounmpo. This has the potential to shake up the Eastern Conference — or NBA — landscape. Yes, there are injury questions with him. But when he's fully healthy, there are still fewer talents that impact the game the way he does. If the Bucks do trade him, whichever team lands him should immediately be in the mix.

What moves do the young, up-and-coming teams, like the Hornets, Magic, Hawks or even Pistons make? Orlando could be dangerous with a new coach and with Franz Wagner actually healthy. Charlotte was one of the league's hottest teams in the second half of the year. Atlanta has a nice young core but could use more of a bona fide star, unless Jalen Johnson makes another leap. If Duren is not good enough to be Cunningham's co-star, perhaps Detroit looks elsewhere.

Looking within

As coach Mike Brown repeatedly said throughout the postseason, teams need injury luck to win a championship. And, other than OG Anunoby missing two games in the second round, they had that luck. Mitchell Robinson was perhaps a bit limited with his broken hand, but that was away from the court and self-inflicted. Staying healthy — for an older, veteran team coming off a long, demanding season — will be pivotal to their hopes of repeating.

What version of the Knicks returns next year? Are they able to bring back Robinson and Landry Shamet (along with other looming free agents)? Do they replace them with cheaper options? President Leon Rose wouldn't shake up the core, would he?

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Mike Vaccaro

OPEN MIKE

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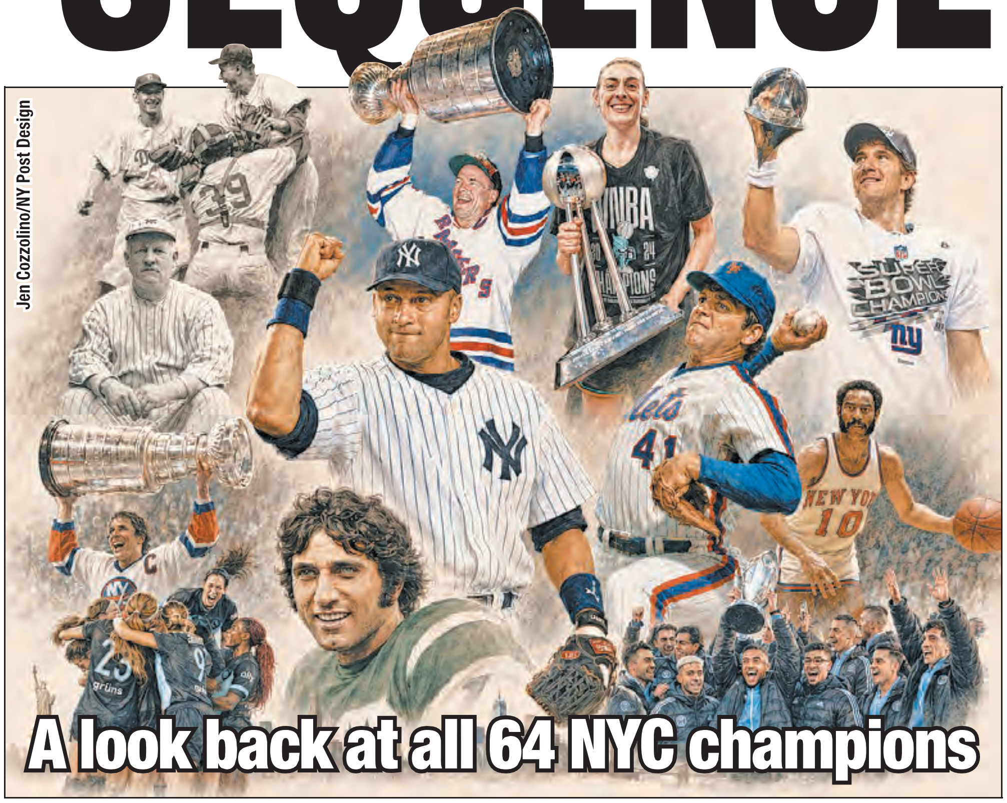
TITLE SEQUENCE

SIXTY-four teams. Sixty-four New York champions now. Let's see if we can describe all 64 in five words or less::

1905 Giants: Christy Mathewson: filthy.
1921 Giants: John McGraw betters Babe.
1922 Giants: And Muggsy does it again!
1923 Yankees: Birth of a dynasty.
1927 Yankees: Ruth. Gehrig. Lazzeri. Meusel. Combs.
1927 Football Giants: Big Blue bombers.
1928 Rangers: Frank Boucher. Boom. Boom.
1928 Yankees: Ruth. Gehrig. Lazzeri. Meusel. Combs.
1932 Yankees: Babe's called shot at Wrigley.
1933 Rangers: Lester Patrick's Broadway Blues.
1933 Giants: Mel Ott: champion.
1934 Football Giants: Sneakers game.
1936 Yankees: Welcome, Joltin' Joe.
1937 Yankees: DiMaggio. Gehrig. Goodness gracious.
1938 Yankees: Break up the Yankees!
1938 Football Giants: Leemans. Danowski.
1939 Yankees: *Break up the Yankees!*
1940 Rangers: Savor it. Trust me.
1941 Yankees: Poor Mickey Owens.
1943 Yankees: One more for the road.
1947 Yankees: Joe D. kicks the dirt.
1949 Yankees: Ol' Reliable delivers.
1950 Yankees: Hello there, young Eddie Ford.
1951 Yankees: Mick! Watch the drain ...!
1952 Yankees: Break up the Yankees.
1953 Yankees: *Break up the Yankees!!!*
1954 Giants: Dusty Rhodes: legend.
1955 Dodgers: Next Year. Finally!
1956 Yankees: Perfect.
1956 Football Giants: Giff. Huff. Chuckin' Charley. Rosey.
1958 Yankees: 3-1 comeback kids.
1961 Yankees: M&M Boys.
1962 Yankees: Three inches to the left ...
1968 Jets: Guaranteed.
1969 Mets: Amazin'. Amazin'. Amazin'. Amazin'. Amazin'.
1970 Knicks: Clyde and the Cap'n. Forever.



A look back at all 64 NYC champions

1973 Knicks: Earl the Pearl. Champion.
1974 Nets: Dr. J & Mr. K
1976 Nets: Long live the ABA!
1977 Yankees: Reg-*gie*! Reg-*gie*! Reg-*gie*!!
1978 Yankees: Bucky Bleepin' Dent.
1980 Islanders: Tonelli to Nystrom. Eternally.
1981 Islanders: 15-3. Beasts.
1982 Islanders: Break up the Islanders?
1983 Islanders: Billy Smith says "no!"
1986 Mets: Mookie. Buckner. Holy s--t.
1986 Giants: Goin' to Disney World.
1991 Giants: Wide right.
1994 Rangers: This one'll last a lifetime.
1995 Devils: Who needs Nashville?
1996 Yankees: Rebirth of a dynasty.
1998 Yankees: The best ever, case closed.
1999 Yankees: "*Thank you, Boss!*"
2000 Devils: Jason Arnott. For the Cup.
2000 Yankees: Get your Subway tokens ready.
2003 Devils: Marty Brodeur. Never better.
2007 Giants: Manning. Burress. Touchdown. Champions.
2009 Yankees: A-Rod: October hero.
2011 Giants: Eli 2, Brady 0.
2021 NYCFC: The title-drought enders
2023 Gotham FC: First NYC title for ladies.
2024 Liberty: Stewart, Sabrina, Jonquel. Respect.
2025 Gotham FC: Upset specialists.
2026 Knicks: "Tip" o' the cap.

VAC'S WHACKS

MICK the Pro was one of those kids who got into the old Garden for 50 cents thanks to the GO card he carried in his wallet, he had absolute faith in **Carl Braun** and **Bud Palmer**, and was thrilled forever after a night in 1971 when **Willis Reed** attended a show where he was playing his horn (and autographed a cocktail napkin for Mick's son). Everyone who watched the Knicks has a story or nine just like this one. That one's mine.

➤ Special mention is due the two longest-tenured Knicks employees who've seen so much bad and now so much good: **Jamie Matthews**, now senior vice president for team operations, and **Anthony Goenaga**, now the Knicks head trainer who started as an intern.

➤ And then there's **David Fried**, who got his start as a Mets intern in 1988 and has become a top sports statistician in NYC. For 36 years he's worked side-by-side with **Mike Breen** and was in San Antonio for the clincher. He also assists **Gary Cohen**, **Ian Eagle** and **Bob Wischusen.**

"It was crazy the way New York fans took over the arena," Fried said. "It was like we were at the Garden. I never thought this day would ever come."

➤ I swore I'd avoid the rash of post-"Yellowstone" series, and I actually lasted a good 15 minutes before getting re-hooked on "Dutton Ranch," hanging out again with Rip and Beth.

WHACK BACK AT VAC

Ralph Mack: In 1928, my grandparents got married, and the Yankees swept the Cardinals to win the World Series. In 1955, my parents were married when the Brooklyn Dodgers won the Series. In 1991, my wife and I got married, and on our honeymoon we watched the Giants win the Super Bowl. And in 2026, my daughter was on her honeymoon watching the Knicks.
Vac: *Listen up, Mets/Jets/Nets/Islanders: It sure sounds like you should be in a bidding war to hire Ralph as VP of Good Karma!*

Peter Carrozzo: Mike, you're the guardian of New York sports' past, as your Mets rain delay article proved. So I'd like to add to the historical record, before it's forgotten: WPIX showed black and white episodes of "F Troop" during Yankees rain delays.
Vac: *That was where I was first introduced to the DP combo of Agarn-to-O'Rourke-to-Parmenter!*

@sandman_996: They did it. Memories of those other forgotten teams that were good but not great. Cartwright, Sugar Ray, Ray Williams, Bernard King, the "Human Eraser" Marvin Webster and so many others. All smiling today somewhere.
@MikeVacc: *Maybe there was a more exciting day in my childhood than the day Marvin was on the cover of SI. But it's hard to recall.*

Father John Collins (Villanova '70): Mike, an honorable mention for the championship should go to Jay Wright. When he recruited his players, he went for those who put team ahead of self. The fruit of the Knicks' win was planted in the seed along the Main Line.
Vac: *Forget HM: I don't think one Knicks fan would argue if Jay was given a ring.*

EVERY SUNDAY MIKE VACCARO RESPONDS TO READERS' QUESTIONS AT MVACCARO@NYPOST.COM AND @MIKEVACC ON X

TALK SHOP

Teams Yanks should engage as potential trade partners

Xavier Edwards
Otto Lopez
Jeremy Peña
Josh Hader
Cade Smith

Getty Images (4); Imagn Images

Joel Sherman

Hardball

TRENT GRISHAM, placed on the injured list June 12 with a strained hamstring, was doing quick start and stop agility drills early in this current homestand.

Max Fried, out since May 13 with a bone bruise in his pitching left elbow, has been throwing bullpen sessions and is expected soon to graduate to facing hitters.

Aaron Judge, out since May 31 with a stress fracture in a rib, is two-ish weeks from imaging to determine how his rehab should proceed.

The Yankees expect all back before the Aug. 3 trade deadline and, if full strength is reached, that would return a starting outfield of Grisham, Judge and Cody Bellinger. The rotation would be constructed around Fried, Gerrit Cole, Carlos Rodón and Cam Schlittler.

So, a Darwinian game is ongoing in which Jasson Domínguez and Spencer Jones are auditioning to be among the positional cast even if the Yankees get whole, and Ryan Weathers and Will Warren are doing the same for the fifth starter spot.

But it goes beyond that. Those players — and perhaps Anthony Volpe vs. José Caballero — also can improve their value for the trade market.

Because a scenario in which contending teams are going to have to trade with each other is rising. The next seven weeks leading to the Aug. 3 deadline should offer some clarity. But the weekend began with 27 of 30 teams either in a playoff spot or within 6½ games. The traffic jam in the NL, the overflow of sub-.500 AL teams, and the number of currently struggling clubs that began with big plans and don't want to quickly surrender (think Mets, Tigers, Orioles, etc.) has created few obvious sellers so far.

So, can a team like the Yankees potentially take multiple good and/or intriguing depth pieces who are inexpensive, and have control years and use that as the crux of a trade for a needed player?

You didn't think we would come so far without trying to find a Knicks parallel, did you?

How about the December 2023 in-season trade that brought mainly OG Anunoby from Toronto for RJ Barrett and Immanuel Quickly? Other elements were included to mainly fit salary cap regulations, not a concern (at least yet) in MLB. Chiefly, the Knicks were consolidating two good pieces for one they thought would raise their ceiling.

The Yankees need a high-end closer, at minimum, to feel considerably better about their championship chances, and next a righty-hitting catcher and perhaps a more reliable middle infielder. They can probably trade an outfielder because Bellinger and Judge are under control beyond this season, as are Domínguez or Jones. The nearing presence of George Lombard Jr. makes it easier to deal a shortstop. As for starters, even if Warren or Weathers were moved, Cole, Fried, Rodón, Schlittler, Luis Gil, Elmer Rodríguez and Clarke Schmidt are under control next season.

Now, it is possible the Yankees' young depth is just the modern Miguel Andujar and Clint Frazer — one-time prospects whose best value has been too minimized. But Warren and Weathers are capable of stepping into the middle of many rotations. Domínguez and Jones should have upside intrigue about what they would look like playing regularly. Caballero's varied skills, and Volpe outside of New York and perhaps at second base could be viewed as assets.

Could some or all of these players improve their value with how they perform in the coming weeks with expanded roles?

I can't imagine it would get off the ground with the Padres for Mason Miller or the Phillies for Jhoan Duran, because as badly as both NL contenders need to upgrade their rotation and outfield depth, they would be extremely weakening themselves in the endgame to do it.

I have no insight that these teams would trade, but these are places the Yankees should definitely see if their excess mixed with prospects could trigger conversations:

1. Guardians with Cade Smith: Cleveland is always thinking big picture even while contending. For example, even en route to the postseason, Cleveland traded from its rotation in 2019 (Trevor Bauer) and 2020 (Mike Clevinger). Smith is not even arbitration eligible until after this season, but the Guardians are the type of organization that could look at a reliever who plays 70-ish innings as the kind of component to deal for multiple pieces if they liked the pieces.

Smith with his high strikeout rate, strength against both lefties and righties, homer defiance and postseason history is the type to get uncomfortable in giving up quality bulk to try to obtain.

2. Astros with Josh Hader and/or Jeremy Peña: Does the industry see Hader as a distressed asset since he just returned from biceps tendinitis and still is owed $38 million for 2027-28, or as a difference-making closer? Peña is a free agent after next season with no momentum toward an extension. Houston owner Jim Crane has insisted the team would never rebuild. So would he see this more as a reconfigure of adding less costly players (to spend elsewhere) who can help in multiple spots and have control years ahead?

3. Marlins with Xavier Edwards or Otto Lopez: Marlins head of baseball operations Peter Bendix comes from the Rays front office, where in contending years they have often bought and sold. Miami has a playoff shot, but does it feel that its real run begins next year and that adding assets would position them better? Bendix already has reached into the Yankees organization twice for multiple-piece trades in dealing Jazz Chisholm Jr. and Weathers. Walk-year reliever Anthony Bender, who smothers righty hitters, also has to be a consideration.

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NIGHT OF THE LIVING FRED!

Peralta suffers career-worst horror on Philadelphia mound

By MIKE PUMA

PHILADELPHIA — Freddy Peralta became Freddy Krueger on Saturday, mortifying anyone wearing a Mets uniform but scaring exactly nobody he faced.

In this chapter of "Nightmare on Broad Street," Freddy and the Mets were dead by the third inning in a brutal 15-3 loss to the Phillies.

Peralta, in his worst career performance, allowed 10 earned runs on 10 hits and one walk over 2 ²⁄₃ innings. The alleged Mets ace saw his ERA inflate to 4.83, even behind Sean Manaea (4.64) in this disappointing Mets rotation. David Peterson and his 5.91 ERA are headed to the mound for Sunday night's series finale.

Kyle Schwarber blasted three homers (including two in one inning) and Bryce Harper hit for the cycle. The good news for the Mets is it counts as only one loss.

But Peralta's woes can't be discounted. The right-hander was only two starts removed from allowing six earned runs in a loss to the Cardinals and he wasn't particularly sharp last Sunday, when he lasted only five innings against the Braves (three of the four runs he allowed in that start were unearned).

PHILLIES	**15**
METS	**3**

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"I think I have been a little inconsistent," Peralta said. "But I have time to be better."

Simply, Peralta is entering "bust" territory after arriving in Queens last winter as the centerpiece of a trade that sent Brandon Sproat and Jett Williams to Milwaukee. The Mets also received Tobias Myers in the deal.

"This is a guy, when you look at his track record, he's been one of the best pitchers in the game," manager Carlos Mendoza said. "He's going through a little bit of a rough stretch here, but if somebody is able to bounce back after bad outings, it's a guy like Freddy. He is a competitor. He is a guy that is going to come back the next day and look for ways to get better and improve. That is what we will do."

Mendoza noted that Peralta's velocity hasn't been an issue — with his fastball sitting in the 96 mph neighborhood — but the right-hander too often is working from behind in the count.

Peralta got tagged early, allowing a two-out homer to Harper in the first that gave the Phillies a 1-0 lead.

J.T. Realmuto and Justin Crawford each delivered an RBI double in the second, extending the Phillies lead to 3-0. Alec Bohm's leadoff single to right — the Phillies won a replay reversal on a ball Eric Wagaman trapped — started the rally.

Peralta never survived the third. Schwarber homered leading off the inning and another run scored when Marcus Semien threw away Brandon Marsh's grounder following Harper's double. Bryson Stott followed with a fly to left that landed behind Juan Soto at the base of the left field fence for an RBI double, widening the Mets deficit to 6-0.

The Phillies weren't nearly finished in the inning. After Realmuto doubled in another run and Peralta recorded the second out, Crawford walked and Trea Turner's RBI single knocked out Peralta. Enter Cionel Pérez, who served up a blast to Schwarber that buried the Mets in an 11-0 hole. Schwarber became the fourth player in Phillies history with a two-homer inning.

"I am just trying to come back and feel like myself and forget about the past," Peralta said. "Just moving forward and trying to become who I really am and take it that way and just finish in that way to the season."

Mark Vientos homered in the fourth to get the Mets on the scoreboard. The homer was Vientos' ninth this season.

Harper's two-run triple in the fifth was his last piece to the cycle – he became the 10th player in franchise history to accomplish the feat.

Carson Benge blasted a two-run homer in the seventh that brought the Mets to within 13-3.

Myers surrendered a two-run homer to Schwarber in the seventh inning. The blast gave Schwarber a three-homer game for the fifth time in his career.

Cristopher Sánchez allowed one earned run on five hits with five strikeouts and one walk over six innings. The left-hander (who had a scoreless streak of 50 ²⁄₃ innings this season) lowered his ERA to 1.80. This was his 23rd straight start in this ballpark allowing two earned runs or fewer.

"Especially when he gets an 11-run lead, he's going to get ahead," Mendoza said. "He's going to use all of his pitches and that is what makes him who he is, too."

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Semien finally providing spark at the plate

By MIKE PUMA

PHILADELPHIA — The version of Marcus Semien the Mets received over the season's first two months wasn't very good.

An almost automatic out in the lineup deep into May, the veteran second baseman was the embodiment of underperformance for a disappointing team.

Lately, there has been a Semien resurgence. Ahead of Saturday's 15-3 loss to the Phillies, he owned a .750 OPS for June (which included four homers) and had played a significant role in the Mets winning eight of 14 games.

"Every time I show up to the ballpark it's, 'How can I grind out my at-bats and help us win?'" Semien said before going 0-for-4 in the loss.

Semien, who arrived last winter in the trade that sent Brandon Nimmo to Texas, began the day with a .225/.283/.362 slash line — disappointing numbers for the 35-year-old former All-Star. But since late May, his OPS has jumped from .569 to .644 for a team desperately trying to remain relevant.

"I have been happy with my routine," Semien said. "It's become consistent as I have worked with [hitting coach] Troy Snitker in the cage. When you are new somewhere, it takes you a little while to kind of nail that stuff down. I feel for guys who move from organization to organization every year because it's like you are creatures of habit and sometimes you do too much, too many different things, instead of focusing on something that gets you prepared for the game."

The most problematic of Semien's underlying metrics might be his bat speed of 68.7 mph that ranks in

PENNSYLVANIA? MORE LIKE TRANSYLVANIA: Mets starter Freddy Peralta delivers during the second inning, a frame before the wheels came off as he exited early and was charged with allowing 10 earned runs and just eight outs recorded Saturday before manager Carlos Mendoza (inset) gave him the hook in Philadelphia. AP (2)

after far-from-Amazin' start

MLB's 10th percentile. Even so, most of his troubles have occurred against breaking balls: He had a .150 batting average against that pitch as play began, with 31 strikeouts.

"At the end of the day, I think the ability to hit velocity and make contact with velocity … you hit a 98 mph fastball to left field, it should go regardless of the bat speed," Semien said. "That has kind of been the way to attack it."

Semien's latest big hit was the two-run triple he delivered Thursday that provided the Mets insurance in their 6-4 victory over the Phillies. It was a second straight win for the Mets in what has been a seesaw season. They began the day 13 ½ games behind the Braves in the National League East. The Mets were five games behind in the race for the NL's third wild-card spot.

"We dug ourselves a little hole, but we're getting some good players back," Semien said. "We want to focus on the present and do everything we can and to win a series here and get some reinforcements and get on a roll."

ON DECK: at Phillies

Sunday, 7:20 p.m., NBC, WHSQ (880 AM)

RHP Tobias Myers

2026 stats:
0-2, 5.71 ERA

Career vs. PHI:
0-1, 13.50 ERA

Last start:
Mon., at CIN;
1.1 IP, 4 H, 7 ER

PITCH BREAKDOWN

51%	22%	16%
4-Seamer	Splitter	Slider

RHP Zack Wheeler

2026 stats:
6-1, 2.01 ERA

Career vs. NYM:
5-5, 3.36 ERA

Last start:
Mon., vs. MIA;
6 IP, 2 H, 0 ER

PITCH BREAKDOWN

38%	17%	13%
4-Seamer	Sinker	Splitter

UP NEXT

MONDAY: vs. Cubs, 7:10 p.m., SNY, WHSQ
RHP Kodai Senga vs. TBD

TUESDAY: vs. Cubs, 7:10 p.m., SNY, WHSQ
TBD vs. TBD

INJURY REPORT

- **Francisco Lindor** will play Sunday for Triple-A Syracuse, potentially his last minor league rehab game before rejoining the Mets. The shortstop is returning from a right calf strain.

Bullpen session could signal quick IL return for Scott

By MIKE PUMA

METS NOTES

PHILADELPHIA — Christian Scott took a positive step Saturday toward potentially returning to the Mets as soon as his required 15 days on the injured list pass.

The right-hander threw a bullpen session before the Mets lost 15-3 to the Phillies and reported feeling "good." Scott was placed on the IL on Monday (retroactive to June 12) with a right hip impingement.

"Full bullpen, high intensity, so we have just got to wait," manager Carlos Mendoza.

The next step for Scott could be facing hitters in live batting practice. Mendoza didn't rule out the possibility that Scott could avoid a minor league rehab stint before rejoining the club.

Scott has pitched to a 3.10 ERA in nine starts for the Mets this season.

➤ **David Peterson** is the scheduled starter for Sunday night's series finale. Tobias Myers received the start as an opener in this rotation spot last Monday and struggled.

But the lefty Peterson has disappointed, pitching to a 5.91 ERA this season, bouncing between the rotation and bullpen. Peterson allowed three earned runs over three innings Monday in relief.

"We have been going with a lot of bullpen games, openers," Mendoza said. "The lineup we're facing here with a lot of lefties, a lineup that is familiar, he's had success before. We're going to need these guys, whether it's Peterson or **Sean Manaea** or **Kodai Senga**. And [Sunday] Peterson is going to get another opportunity and we're counting on him."

➤ Mendoza said he had an "unbelievable" experience Friday night watching Brazil play Haiti in a World Cup match across the street at Lincoln Financial Field.

"Growing up in Venezuela, I always cheer for Brazil," Mendoza said, noting that his native country doesn't participate in the event. "It's fun that for the first time I got to watch a World Cup [match] and it's Brazil playing. The atmosphere is unreal. It was unbelievable."

UGLY AS CIN’

Bats no-show, Warren flops in Bombers’ sloppy loss to Reds

GERRIT COLE

Cole start pushed to Monday

Gerrit Cole’s next start has been pushed back a day. Aaron Boone said the ace will pitch Monday in Detroit, while rookie Elmer Rodríguez will go Sunday against the Reds in The Bronx.

The move, Boone insisted, is not cause for concern regarding Cole, who has made five starts since returning from the Tommy John surgery that sidelined him all of last season.

Instead, it’s a product of the Yankees being in the middle of 16 games without an off day.

Rodríguez had been scheduled to start Sunday for Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre. The right-hander made three starts for the Yankees earlier in the season, when their starting depth was tested with Cole and Carlos Rodón on the IL to start the year.

As Cole and Rodón try to round into form, they’ll now get an added day.

Both have shown glimpses of what the Yankees are counting on them to be. Cole looked dominant in his first two outings before a pair of shaky starts, then pitched solidly in his most recent appearance.

Boone said Cole has pitched “really well” and recovered smoothly in his return.

“We also want to play the long game with all these guys,” the manager said.

To make room for Rodríguez, the Yankees optioned struggling right-hander Jake Bird to SWB.

— Dan Martin

By DAN MARTIN

For much of the season, regardless of who’s in the lineup or on the injured list, the Yankees have played like the best team in the American League.

Saturday was not one of those days.

There was a lineup that couldn’t deliver a clutch hit, sloppy defense and an uninspiring start by Will Warren.

And a 10-2 loss to the Reds in The Bronx.

The Yankees entered having won five of six and nine of their previous 11, even with Aaron Judge — and plenty of others — sidelined.

REDS	**10**	**Boxscore Page 60**
YANKEES	**2**	

But against lefty Andrew Abbott, the Yankees got a first-inning homer from Paul Goldschmidt and almost nothing else.

It didn’t help that they went 0-for-13 with runners in scoring position.

“We had some guys on base, but weren’t able to get that hit to take the lead … or chip into their lead,” Goldschmidt said. “We move on and get ready for tomorrow.”

Warren, who has done well to keep the Yankees in games even without his best stuff, this time wasn’t able to stop a rally that started with an error by Ben Rice at first to open the fifth.

Goldschmidt gave the Yankees the lead with a two-out solo shot to right-center in the first.

It was Goldschmidt’s third homer in his past five games, as well as his fourth in his past seven.

Warren, after striking out the side in order in the first, gave up a leadoff double to Nathaniel Lowe in the second.

But the right-hander didn’t let Lowe get past second and the Yankees stayed ahead.

In the third, Edwin Arroyo doubled with one out and Blake Dunn walked.

Both scored on Sal Stewart’s double to left to give Cincinnati a 2-1 lead.

The Reds added to their lead in the fifth, thanks to some shoddy Yankees defense.

Arroyo led off with a grounder to shortstop that should have been a routine play, but Anthony Volpe threw low and Ben Rice dropped it for an error on the first baseman.

After a forceout, JJ Bleday doubled to right and Stewart followed with a sacrifice fly.

Lowe walked and Spencer Steer hit a three-run homer to left to make it 6-1.

“I’ve got to find a way to minimize the damage there,” Warren said of the homer that wrecked his day, although only two of his six runs allowed were earned.

“We’ve done a good job of that previously. It’s my job to wiggle out of that.”

It’s why the Yankees were 12-2 in Warren’s starts entering this one.

“Especially with our offense and the runs we can put up, I have full confidence we can come back,” Warren said.

Not Saturday.

The Yankees loaded the bases with two outs in the bottom of the fifth for Goldschmidt, but he struck out looking on a 3-2 sweeper.

He challenged the called third strike, but it was confirmed.

“I was hoping it was a ball,” Goldschmidt said. “If it wasn’t that situation, I probably wouldn’t challenge. It was a situation where it was worth a chance. Unfortunately, it was on the corner.”

A running catch in deep left by José Caballero in the sixth prevented at least one more run from scoring.

The Yankees finally chased Abbott in the sixth when Cody Bellinger and Jasson Domínguez opened with base hits.

With two on and none out, right-hander Tejay Antone came on and got Caballero and Jazz Chisholm Jr. to pop out and Volpe to fly out to right.

It got so ugly, in part due to Ryan Yarbrough giving up four runs in the eighth, that the Yankees resorted to using a position player, Max Schuemann, to pitch the ninth.

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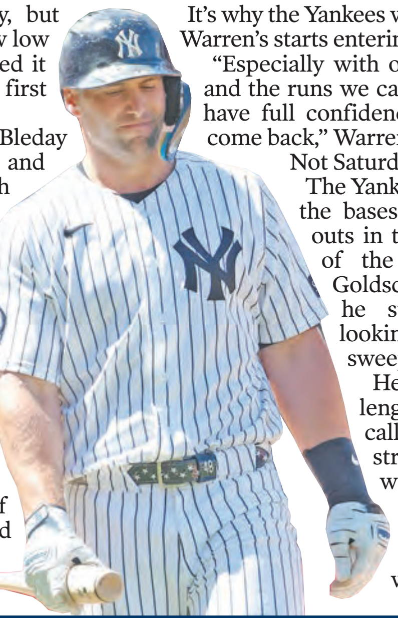
More Yankees / P. 69



YIKES! Will Warren (right) reacts after Blake Dunn slides safely into home behind Ali Sánchez on a sacrifice fly during the fifth inning of the Yankees’ 10-2 loss to the Reds. Paul Goldschmidt, who homered in the first inning, reacts after striking out with the bases loaded in the fifth.

Robert Sabo (3)

Montefiore Einstein Official Hospital of the New York Yankees

Yanks could soon face rotation questions

Joel Sherman

THE YANKEES played miserably Saturday and received the proper punishment.

Bad start by Will Warren, poor relief by Ryan Yarbrough, unacceptable defense by multiple players, no hits in 13 at-bats with runners in scoring position and an unpardonable baserunning snafu by José Caballero resulted in a 10-2 Reds rout before a sellout crowd at Yankee Stadium.

By the end, the Yankees were using a position player, Max Schuemann, to pitch for the first time this year.

But Warren's start resonated most. In the big picture, who occupies the back of the Yankees rotation, the bullpen and the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre roster is a huge subject.

To that big-picture end, the Yankees called up Elmer Rodríguez to start Sunday against the Reds, pushing Gerrit Cole and everyone else back a day to lighten the load during a 16-game stretch without an off-day.

This reflects a team with the grandest dreams. The Yankees have emerged as the unquestioned best team in the AL. This is as much as any year a World Series or bust season. And on a roster with many strengths, the greatest asset — with full health — is the rotation. Which is why I do not think the Yankees actually will pay what is expected to be a huge price to rent walk-year ace Tarik Skubal, as great as he is. Because they have other areas to pursue. Plus, the AL is so miserable that the Tigers continue to hover close enough to contention despite being 12 games under .500 that Skubal is not going to be dealt in the next few weeks — if at all.

So the Yankees are trying to maximize their rotation. So if that means inserting Rodriguez for a day, so be it. Cole and Carlos Rodón were both slow-played to readiness after elbow surgery and the Yankees want to continue to build them toward being their best come October. The same goes for Max Fried.

Aaron Boone continued to provide upbeat updates on Fried (elbow bone bruise), who has been out since May 13. He is expected to face hitters this week. And he is the much more likely lefty the Yankees will get in late July than Skubal. The Yankees would never say it publicly, but Fried had his greatest workload ever last year and if he heals well, they will not mind that he will be fresh for the most vital games.

In part that is because they have had coverage with Cam Schlittler emerging as the AL Cy Young favorite, Cole and Rodón returning around the time Fried exited and Warren and Ryan Weathers providing more than sturdy back-end depth.

And you know how this usually goes — the Yankees will be fortunate if they can get from here to Fried's return without rotation injury. But if they do, it will be an interesting time since it will coincide with when Clarke Schmidt is due back after his Tommy John surgery and the Aug. 3 trade deadline — not to mention possibly Carlos Lagrange having joined the pen.

Warren and Weathers both have minor league options. They both have a potential upside to deepen the rotation. And, who knows, maybe they have value on the trade market if necessary.

"I don't really think about where I line up," Warren said. "I'm a good pitcher and I think I definitely belong in a rotation even as good as ours is, so it doesn't really cross my mind. I'm just taking the ball whenever I can every five days."

The last three have not gone great. He limited damage against Cleveland and Toronto, but lasted just 8 $^1/_3$ innings in those starts. This went far worse.

Paul Goldschmidt remained sizzling, particularly against lefties, homering off Andrew Abbott in the first. The chances to extend the lead in the second collapsed when Caballero was picked off for the fifth time this year (second most in the majors). Even Boone could not defend it happening with two outs and two strikes when a speedy runner will score on just about any hit.

Warren struck out the side in the first and eight altogether in 5 $^2/_3$ innings. But he also allowed six extra-base hits, both walks he issued scored and he simply could not pitch around defensive miscues.

In the third inning, Jasson Domínguez could have doubled up a runner at second to end the inning but threw errantly and Sal Stewart followed with a two-run double to give the Reds a 2-1 lead.

Arroyo led off the fifth with what should have been a routine groundout, but Ben Rice muffed a low Anthony Volpe throw. Blake Dunn is among the majors' speediest runners, but the Yankees still had a chance to convert a double play on his grounder to short and only produced a forceout. The door opened toward four runs — three on a Spencer Steer homer.

Warren looked like the guy from the past who could not minimize damage. In the short run, he will keep getting the ball. But the Yankees could soon be facing intriguing and monumental rotation questions.

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INJURY REPORT

- **Luis Gil** has resumed throwing, Aaron Boone said Saturday. The right-hander has been on the IL with Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre with right shoulder inflammation. The 2024 AL Rookie of the Year has been unable to regain the form he had two years ago.

ON DECK

vs. Reds

Sunday, 1:35 p.m.,
YES, WFAN

RHP Elmer Rodríguez

2026 stats:
0-1, 4.15 ERA

Career vs. CIN:
First start

Last start:
May 17, at NYM;
4.1 IP, 1 ER, 1 SO

PITCH BREAKDOWN

42%	22%	14%
Sinker	4-Seamer	Slider

RHP Chase Burns

2026 stats:
8-1, 2.01 ERA

Career vs. NYY:
0-0, 5.40 ERA

Last start:
Mon., vs. NYM;
5 IP, 0 ER, 7 SO

PITCH BREAKDOWN

57%	37%	6%
4-Seamer	Slider	Change

UP NEXT

MONDAY: at Tigers,
6:10 p.m., YES, WFAN
RHP Gerrit Cole
vs. TBD

TUESDAY: at Tigers,
6:40 p.m., YES, WFAN
TBD vs. TBD

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FREDDY'S NIGHTMARE

PERALTA ALLOWS 10 RUNS IN 2 2/3 INNINGS AS METS GET DEMOLISHED BY PHILLIES

PAGES 80-81

NEW YORK POST

SUNDAY Sports

JUNE 21, 2026

USMNT has sights set on hoisting Cup — and it's not the only one that believes

LEWIS, SEARS, DUARTE / P. 74-75

GOLDEN GOAL

USA
16
USA VS. AUSTRALIA
SEATTLE, WA
19 JUNE 2026

Alex Freeman, celebrating his goal during the United States' win over Australia, and Co. have already clinched Group D — with one more game to go. Mauricio Pochettino (inset) has pressed all the right buttons with this team, and it has raised the bar of what is possible in the next month.

Getty Images (2)

COMMAND PERFORMANCE

CLARK LEADS BY 6 HEADING INTO U.S. OPEN FINAL ROUND

PAGES 70-71

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